

A NEW  
HISTORY  
OF  
ENGLAND,

FROM THE  
DESCENT of the ROMANS,  
TO THE  
DEMISE of his late Majesty, GEORGE II.

INSCRIBED TO  
His present Majesty, GEORGE III.

By WILLIAM RIDER, A. B.  
Late of *Jesus College, Oxford.*

HISTORY is *philosophy teaching by examples.*  
Bolingbroke *from Dion. Hall.*

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A NEW

HISTORY

OF  
ENGLAND

FROM THE

DISCOVERY OF THE ROMANS

TO THE

REIGN OF KING GEORGE III.

IN TWO VOLUMES

THE FIRST VOLUME

BY WILLIAM BAKER, A.B.

OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

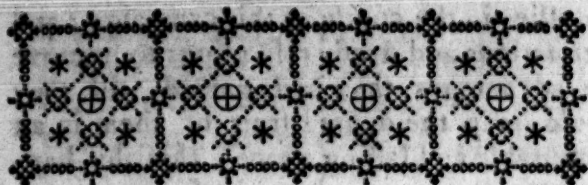
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1790

IN TWO VOLUMES

THE SECOND VOLUME





T H E  
History of ENGLAND.



The HISTORY of Queen ANNE  
continued. A. D. 1706.

THE English parliament assembling on the third day of December, the queen, in her speech to both houses, said, that she hoped they were met, with hearts impressed with a grateful sense of the glorious successes, with which it had  
A 2 pleased

#### 4 *The History of* ENGLAND.

pleased God to bless her arms and those of her allies in the course of this campaign ; and with serious and steady resolutions to improve the advantages they had gained, till they should reap the desired fruit of them in an honourable and lasting peace : that this happy prospect was now brought so much nearer, that, if they were not wanting to themselves, they might, upon good grounds, hope to see such a balance of power established in Europe, that it should no longer be in the option of any one prince to disturb the repose, and endanger the liberties of this part of the world : that she hoped they would grant her such supplies as would enable her to prosecute the ensuing campaign with as much vigour as the former : that the treaty of union, as concluded by the commissioners of both kingdoms, was at that time under the consideration of the Scottish parliament ; and she doubted not but she should soon have an opportunity to inform them of the success, with which it had been there attended ; and that, as they had met so late in the year, she begged they would proceed with as much dispatch as the nature of the business would admit ; that so both friends and enemies might be fully convinced of the firmness and vigour of their proceedings.

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This speech was received with applause by both houses, who, in two days after, presented to her majesty addresses of thanks. Then they proceeded to the consideration of the supply, and, having examined the estimates, in less than a week, voted near six millions for the service of the ensuing year. In reviewing the accounts, however, some difficulties arose. It appeared, that the extraordinary supplies for the support of king Charles of Spain, amounted to about eight hundred thousand pounds, more than the sums granted by parliament. It was alleged, that it might be attended with very ill consequences, if a ministry could thus run the nation in debt, and expect that the parliament should pay the money.

To this it was answered, that, if any thing had been raised without necessity, or misapplied, on pretence of serving the public, it was certainly reasonable to inquire into the matter, and punish those who should be found to be guilty; but, as this expence was incurred to improve advantages, at a time when the occasion could not be communicated to parliament, the ministry ought rather to be applauded for their zeal, than condemned for their liberality. The question being put, the majority voted, that tho. sums had been expended for the preservation of the duke

of Savoy, for the support of king Charles against the common enemy, and for the safety and honour of the nation.

When the speaker presented the money-bills, he told her majesty, that, as the glorious victory obtained by the duke of Marlborough, was so surprizing, that the battle was fought before the armies could be supposed to be in the field; so it was no less surprizing, that the commons had granted supplies to her majesty, before the enemy could well know that the parliament was sitting. This nobleman was again honoured with the thanks of both houses. The lords presented an address to the queen, beseeching her to settle his honours on his posterity. An act was passed for this purpose: and, in consequence of another address from the commons, a pension of five thousand pounds out of the post-office, was settled upon him and his descendants.

The lords and commons, having adjourned themselves to the seventh day of January, the queen closed the year with triumphal processions. As the standards and colours taken at Blenheim had been placed in Westminster-hall, so now those which had been brought from the field of Ramillies, were put up in Guildhall, as trophies of that victory. On the last day of December, which had  
been

been appointed for a general thanksgiving, the queen, attended by the two houses of parliament, the great officers of state, the judges, and other public officers, went in procession to St. Paul's cathedral, where she heard a sermon, preached by the bishop of Salisbury, who afterwards received the thanks of the commons, for his seasonable discourse. \*

The Tories, mortified at the dispatch and unanimity with which the treaty of union had hitherto been conducted, were eager to lay hold of the first opportunity of venting their spleen against that measure. The parliament, accordingly, was no sooner re-assembled, † than the earl of Nottingham moved, for an address to her majesty, desiring that she would give orders that the proceedings of the commissioners for the union, as well as those of the Scottish parliament on the same subject, should be submitted to their inspection. He was second-  
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\* About this time, the earls of Kent, Lindsay, and Kingston were promoted to the rank of marquisses. The lords Wharton, Powlet, Godolphin, and Cholmondeley were created earls: lord Walden, son and heir-apparent to the earl of Suffolk, obtained the title of earl Bindon; the lord-keeper Cowper and Sir Thomas Pelham, were honoured with the dignity of barons.

† A. D. 1707.



## 8 *The History of* ENGLAND.

ed by the duke of Buckingham, and the earl of Rochester, who said, that as he had several doubts to propose about the union, he thought it necessary to enter upon the matter, with all possible expedition.

In answer to this the earl of Godolphin replied, that they needed not doubt but her majesty would acquaint them with these proceedings, as soon as the Scottish parliament should have finished the subject of the union. It was urged too, by the lords Wharton, Somers, and Hallifax, that it was for the honour of the nation, that the treaty of union should first come ratified from the parliament of Scotland ; and then, and not before, it would be a proper time for the lords to take it into consideration. The Tories, perceiving the weakness of their party, did not think proper to put the question ; and the motion was accordingly dropped.

On the twenty-eighth day of March the queen, in a short speech to both houses told them, that the treaty of union, with some additions and alterations, was ratified by an act of the Scottish parliament : that she had ordered it to be laid before them, and hoped it would meet with their concurrence and approbation : that she expected they would provide for the payment of the equivalent



valent to Scotland, in case the treaty should be approved : that they had now an opportunity of putting the last hand to a happy union of the two kingdoms : and that she should look upon it as a particular happiness, if this great work, which had been so often attempted without success, could be brought to perfection in her reign.

The commons having formed themselves into a committee of the whole house, to deliberate on the articles of the union and the Scottish act of ratification, the Tories began, without delay, to open their batteries ; but their cannon were ill mounted, and worse served : in other words, their arguments were some of them specious ; none of them solid : some were weak and frivolous ; and others altogether absurd and ridiculous, and even contradictory. Sir John Packington said, that this incorporating union was like marrying a woman against her consent : that it was an union carried on by corruption within doors, by force and violence without : that the promoters of it had basely betrayed their post, in giving up their independent constitution ; and he would leave it to the judgment of the house to consider, whether or no men of such principles were fit to be admitted into their house of representatives : that her majesty,

by

## 10 *The History of* ENGLAND.

by the coronation-oath, was obliged to maintain the church of England, as by law established ; and likewise bound, by the same oath, to defend the Presbyterian kirk of Scotland, in one and the same kingdom : that, after this union should be in force, he begged leave to know, who should administer this oath to her majesty ? it was not the business of the Scots, who were incapable of it, and no well-wishers to the church of England ; it was then only the part of the bishops to do it ; and could it be supposed that these reverend persons would, or could act a part so contrary to their own order and institution, as thus to promote the establishment of the Presbyterian church-government in the united kingdom ? that the church of England being established *jure divino*, and the Scots pretending, that their kirk was also *jure divino*, he could not tell how two nations, that clashed in so essential a point, could unite ; and he therefore thought it proper to consult the convocation about this critical point.

He was answered by colonel Henry Mor-daunt, who observed, that he knew of no other *jure divino* than God Almighty's permission : that, in this sense, the church of England, and the kirk of Scotland, might both be said to be *juro divino* ; because  
 God

God had permitted, that the former should prevail in England ; the latter, in Scotland : and that the member who spoke last, might, if he pleased, consult the convocation for his own particular information ; but he believed the commons needed no such instruction ; they were sufficient judges of the propriety of their own measures ; and, in any event, it would be derogatory to the rights of the commons of England, to ask on this occasion, the advice of an inferior assembly, who had no share in the legislature.

Some of the Tories moved, that the first article of the treaty, which implied a peremptory agreement to an incorporating union, should be postponed ; and that the house should proceed to the consideration of the terms of the intended union, contained in the other articles. This motion being rejected, several of the Tory members withdrew ; and all the articles were examined and approved without further opposition. The only complaint made by the Tories, on this last occasion, was, that the commons went “ post-haste” in an affair that required the most mature deliberation. To this it was answered, that deliberation always supposes doubts and difficulties ; that, no material objections being offered against  
any

any of the articles, there was no room for delay.

Before the lords began to discuss the articles of the union, they introduced, at the desire of the archbishop of Canterbury, a bill for the security of the church of England, to be inserted as a fundamental and essential part of that treaty. It passed through both houses with the utmost expedition, and immediately received the royal assent. On the fifteenth day of February the subject was opened in the house of peers, the queen being present, and the bishop of Salisbury chairman of the committee.

The opposition was conducted by the earls of Rochester, Anglesey, Nottingham, lord Haversham, and the bishop of Bath and Wells. Haversham, who had long distinguished himself by his laboured harangues, thought proper to display his abilities upon this occasion. He said, the question was, whether two nations, independent in their sovereignties, having their distinct laws and interests, their different forms of worship, church government and order, should be united into one kingdom? that, in his opinion, this was an union composed of so many mismatched pieces, of such jarring, incongruous ingredients, that, should it ever take effect,

effect, he feared it would carry the necessary consequence of a standing power and force, to keep them from falling asunder, and breaking in pieces every moment: that to it might justly be applied the observation of lord Bacon, where he says, that an unity pieced up by direct admission of direct contrarieties in the fundamental points of it, is like the toes of Nebuchadnezzar's image, which were made of iron and clay; they may cleave together, but could never incorporate: that he dissented from the union for the sake of the good old English constitution, justly allowed to be the most equal and best poised government in the world, the peculiar excellency of which lay in that well-proportioned distribution of power, by which the greatness of the monarch, and the safety of the people were at once secured: that it was an acknowledged maxim, in all politics, that the surest way to preserve any government, was by a strict adherence to its principles; while these were observed, and the ballance of powers kept equal, the constitution was safe; but who could answer, what so great a weight as sixty-one Scottish members, and these too returned by a Scottish privy-council, when thrown into the state, might produce? that, besides, he was apprehensive of the precedent established by



this union ; above an hundred Scottish peers, and as many commoners, were excluded from sitting and voting in the British parliament, though they had as much right to sit there, as any English peer had to sit in the parliament of England ; and a right too as well fenced and as strongly secured to them by the fundamental laws of their kingdom, by claim of right and act of parliament, which made it treason to attempt any alteration in the constitution of their state ; and yet, had they not lost their right ? and what one security had any peer of England for his right and privilege of peerage, which those peers had not ? that, if the bishops would weaken their own cause so far as to give up the two great points of episcopal ordination and confirmation ; if they would approve and ratify the act for securing the presbyterian church government in Scotland, as the true Protestant religion and purity of worship ; they must give up that which had been contended for between them and the Presbyterians these thirty years, and been defended by the greatest and most learned men of the church of England : that he disapproved of the exempting articles, reserving to the present possessors, the hereditary offices and superiorities, both which Cromwell had been so wise, as, by an act of state, to abolish :



abolish : that the union was contrary to the general sense of the Scottish nation : that the murmurs of the people had been so loud as to fill the whole kingdom ; and so bold as to reach even to the doors of the parliament : that, for his own part, he considered an incorporating union as one of the most dangerous experiments to both nations, and likely to be attended with the most fatal consequences : that he heartily wished his fears might be found to have been entirely groundless ; but, should the event prove otherwise ; should the treaty be productive of those ill effects, which he owned, he apprehended, he begged leave to observe, that they would, at last, be convinced, to their infinite regret, that the error they had committed was altogether irretrievable.

The same topics were enforced by the lords Guernsey, Granville, Stawell, and Abington. The lord North and Grey complained of the small and unequal proportion of the land-tax imposed upon Scotland. The earl of Nottingham, after having opposed every article of the treaty, separately, concluded with the following observation : “ As Sir John Maynard said to the late king, at the Revolution, that, having buried all his cotemporaries in Westminster-hall, he was afraid, if his majesty had not come

“ in that very juncture of time, he might  
“ have likewise outlived the very laws ; so,  
“ if this union do pass, as I have no reason  
“ to doubt but it will, I may affirm, that I  
“ have outlived all the laws, and the very  
“ constitution of England. I therefore pray  
“ to God to avert the dire effects, which may  
“ probably ensue from such an incorporating  
“ union.”

These objections were answered by the earls of Godolphin, Sunderland, and Wharton, the lords Townsend, Hallifax, and Somers, the bishops of Oxford, Norwich, and Sarum. They observed, that such an important measure, as that of uniting the two kingdoms, could not be accomplished without some inconveniencies ; but, if the advantages were greater than the disadvantages, the lesser evil ought certainly to be chosen : that the chief dangers which threatened the church, arose from France and Popery ; and these would be effectually prevented by this union : that Scotland lay on the weakest side of England, which could not be defended but by a numerous army : that, should a war break out between the two nations, and Scotland be conquered, yet, even in that case, it must either be united to England, or kept under by an army ; the danger of maintaining a standing force, was apparent, as it  
might

might be employed, by an enterprising prince, to serve his own ambitious purposes, and, joining with the Scots, enable him to inflave his English subjects; and any union, after a conquest, would be compulsive, consequently of short duration; whereas now it was voluntary, and therefore likely to be the more lasting: that, with regard to matters of an ecclesiastical nature, all parties had, in their turn, been guilty of such instances of violence, that none of them could throw any imputation on the others, which might not, with equal justice, be cast upon themselves: that these heats and animosities, however, might be easily allayed by soft and gentle management: that the cantons of Switzerland, though they professed different religions, were yet united in one general body: that the dyet of Germany was composed of princes and states, among whom three different persuasions prevailed; so that two different sorts of discipline might very well subsist under one government: that, if there was any danger on either side, it threatened the Scots much more than the English, as it was more likely that five hundred and thirteen members should get the better of forty-five, than that forty-five should overcome five hundred and thirteen; and, in the house of lords, twenty-six bishops would always

be an overmatch for the sixteen peers from Scotland.

These arguments were deemed fully satisfactory by every one who wished well to the interest of his country, and was free from the manacles of prejudice and prepossession. Accordingly, the articles were immediately approved by a very great majority; though not without a number of protestations from the Tory-members.

The treaty having thus received the approbation of both houses, a bill was ordered to be forthwith framed for enacting it into a law; and this was prepared in the lower house, by Sir Simon Harcourt, the solicitor-general, in such a prudent manner, as to prevent all debates. All the articles, as they passed in Scotland, were recited by way of preamble, together with the acts made in both parliaments, for the security of their several churches; and, in conclusion, there was one clause, by which the whole was ratified and enacted into a law.

By this means the Tories, who had resolved to start new difficulties, found themselves disabled from pursuing their design. They could not object to the recital, which was merely matter of fact; and they had not strength sufficient to oppose the general enacting clause. On the other hand the Whigs  
pro-

promoted it with such zeal, that it was carried by a majority of one hundred and fourteen, before the Tories had recovered from the surprise, into which the structure of the bill had thrown them.

It passed through the upper house with equal dispatch ; and, when it received the royal assent, the queen expressed the utmost satisfaction. She said, that she considered the union as a matter of the utmost importance to the wealth, strength, and safety of the whole island : that she doubted not but it would be remembered and spoke of hereafter, to the honour of those, who had been instrumental in bringing it to such a happy conclusion : that she hoped her subjects of both kingdoms would henceforth behave with all possible respect and kindness towards each other, that it might appear to all the world, they had hearts disposed to become one people : and that she considered it as a peculiar happiness, that, in her reign, so full provision had been made for the peace and quiet of her subjects, and for the security of the reformed religion, by so firm an establishment of the Protestant succession throughout the whole island. Thus, after many vigorous, though ineffectual attempts for the purpose, was, at last, happily accomplished an union between the kingdoms of  
England



20 *The History of ENGLAND:*

England and Scotland, which has raised Great-Britain to a higher degree of power and grandeur, and given her a greater weight in the general balance of Europe, than, while divided, as formerly, into two distinct governments, she could ever have attained.

On the twenty-fourth day of April, the queen prorogued the parliament, after having told them, that she would continue, by proclamation, the lords and commons already assembled, as members in the first British parliament, pursuant to the powers vested in her by the acts of parliament of both kingdoms. The parliament was accordingly revived by a proclamation; and by another, the first parliament of Great-Britain was appointed to meet on the twentieth day of October. Mean while several of the Scottish lords repaired to London, where they were well received by the queen, who bestowed the title of duke upon the earls of Roxburgh and Montrose. She likewise issued a commission for a new privy-council in Scotland, to continue till the next session of parliament, that the nation might not be distressed by too sudden a change of outward appearances.

The first of May was appointed as a day of public thanksgiving; and it was observed with a decent solemnity all over the kingdom.



dom. Congratulatory addresses were presented by the different counties and corporations of England ; but the university of Oxford paid no compliment ; and the Scots were wholly silent on the occasion. This omission induced the inhabitants of Brackley in Northamptonshire, to observe, in their address, that they would willingly have refrained from disturbing her majesty amidst her weighty concerns for the liberties of Europe, had they not been afraid, that the malice of the world might have unjustly confounded them with some of her mistaken subjects, who, though enjoying an equal, if not the greatest share of the benefits of the union, had yet, by their silence on this occasion, sufficiently discovered their dislike of that, which her majesty had declared to be the greatest glory of her reign.

Among other means which the Tories had used to prevent the union, one was, the employing a set of inflammatory writers to alarm the nation with apprehensions of the church's danger, and to revile and traduce the conduct of the ministers ; and this licentiousness had been carried to such a pitch, that it was now thought necessary to restrain it by some wholesome severities. Dr. Joseph Brown was thrice pilloried for a copy of verses, intitled, " The country parson's address  
" vice

## 22. *The History of* ENGLAND.

"advice to the lord-keeper," and a letter which he wrote to Mr. secretary Harley. William Stephens, rector of Sutton in Surrey, was condemned to the same punishment, as author of a pamphlet, called, "a letter to the author of the memorial of the church of England;" but, in consideration of his being in holy orders, the execution of the sentence was remitted. Edward Ward was set in the pillory for having written a burlesque poem on the queen and the government, under the title of "Hudibras Redivivus:" and the same punishment was inflicted on William Pitts, author of a performance, intitled "The case of the church of England's memorial fairly stated: or a modest inquiry into the grounds of those prejudices, which have been entertained against her;" George Sawbridge too, the publisher of this last pamphlet, was fined in the sum of six hundred pounds; and ordered to be brought by the marshal of the Queen's-Bench prison to all the courts in Westminster-hall, with a paper on his breast denoting his offence.

The convocation, which sat at the same time with the parliament, still continued to be distracted with its former feuds and animosities. Though the lower house concurred with the upper in congratulating the queen

queen on the success of her arms, they yet resolved to make application to the house of commons against the union. The queen, apprized of their design, ordered the archbishop to prorogue them for three weeks, before the end of which the act of union had passed in the parliament.

The lower house thought proper to comply with this injunction; but, at the same time delivered a representation to the bishops, in which they complained of the prorogation, and affirmed, that no such expedient had ever been practiced since the commencement of the reformation. Had their assertions been actually true, yet would it have been of no significancy; as no contrary custom, nor any thing short of a positive law, could, properly speaking, bound the prerogative: but the truth is, it was altogether false, as evidently appeared from consulting the records; where it was found, that there were no less than seven or eight precedents of such prorogation, and above thirty instances of the convocation having sat sometimes before, and sometimes after a session of parliament, and even sometimes when the parliament was dissolved.

The queen, being informed of their proceedings, wrote a letter to the archbishop, importing, that she considered the lower

## 24 *The History of* ENGLAND.

house as guilty of an invasion of her royal supremacy: and that, if any thing of the like nature was attempted for the future, she would use such means as the law warranted for punishing offenders. The prolocutor absenting himself from the convocation, the archbishop pronounced sentence of contumacy against him for this contempt of the royal mandate. The lower house drew up a protestation, declaring this sentence unlawful and null. Nevertheless the prolocutor made a full submission, with which the archbishop was satisfied; and the sentence was repealed.

The Whigs imagined, that after the services they had done to their country, and the assurances of support they had received from her majesty, they had a right to expect, that one of the secretaries at least should be a man, in whom they could confide. They therefore insisted that either Mr. Harley or Sir Charles Hedges, the two present secretaries, should be dismissed, and the post bestowed upon the earl of Sunderland. Hedges accordingly was deprived of his office, and the earl of Sunderland substituted in his place.

The allies had gained such a manifest superiority in the former campaign, that they had every thing to hope from the operations of the present: but, by a variety of untoward

ward circumstances, the event did not answer their expectation. Though the English and Dutch had rejected the offers that had been made them by the enemy, yet was the emperor so apprehensive, that they would engage in a separate treaty, that he resolved to take care of his own interest; and accordingly he concluded a capitulation with Lewis, by which the Milanese was evacuated, and that monarch was left at liberty to employ the forces, which guarded that Dutchy, in opposing the allies in Spain and the Netherlands.

In the beginning of the year the confederate generals in Catalonia held a consultation in order to concert the operations of the ensuing campaign. The earl of Peterborough, who had retired to Italy, sent his opinion in writing, in which he advised them to remain on the defensive, and secure the territories which they had already acquired. But the general opinion was, that they should undertake an offensive war, go in quest of the enemy, and offer them battle whenever they should appear.

Accordingly on the first day of April, the army was assembled at Caudela, to the number of about fifteen thousand men, under the command of the marquis das Minas, assisted by the earl of Galway and other ge-



## 26 *The History of* ENGLAND.

neral officers. On the seventh they began their march towards Yecla, and laid siege to the castle of Villena; but hearing that the duke of Berwick was in the neighbourhood, they advanced on the fourteenth of the same month in four columns towards the town of Almanza, where the enemy were drawn up in order of battle, their number being greatly superior to that of the allies.

The battle began about two in the afternoon, and the whole front of each army was fully engaged. The English and Dutch squadrons on the left, commanded by the earl of Galway, and supported by the Portuguese of the second line, were overpowered after a very obstinate resistance. The center headed by general Erle, and composed chiefly of battalions from Great-Britain and Holland, compelled the enemy to give way, and drove their first upon their second line; but the Portuguese cavalry on the right, conducted by the marquis das Minas, being broke at the first charge, their foot fled with the utmost precipitation: so that the English and Dutch troops being left naked in the flanks, were instantly surrounded, and attacked on every side.

In this dreadful situation, they threw themselves into a hollow square, and retired from the field of battle. Had they been  
able



able to make good their retreat, the enemy would have had no great cause to boast of the victory ; for the loss on both sides was as yet nearly equal. But their men were by this time quite spent with fatigue, and all their ammunition exhausted ; they were ignorant of the country, abandoned by their horse, destitute of provisions, and cut off from all hopes of supply. Moved by these dismal considerations, they capitulated and surrendered themselves prisoners of war, to the amount of thirteen battalions. The Portuguese, and part of the English horse, with the infantry, that guarded the baggage, retreated to Alcira, where they were soon after joined by the earl of Galway, with some squadrons of dragoons, which he had brought from the field of battle.

Above two thousand of the allied army were killed upon the spot ; and among these Brigadier Killigrew, the colonels Roper, Laurence, Dormer, Deloches, Green, Austin, Mac-Neal, Woollet, Withers, Ramsey, and Erskine. The earl of Galway, who charged in person at the head of Guiscard's dragoons, received a deep cut in his face, having before lost his right hand, with which he might have parried the blow. The marquis das Minas was run through the arm, and saw his concubine, who fought in the

## 28 *The History of* ENGLAND.

habit of an Amazon, killed by his side: the lord Mark Ker, Mr. O'Hara, son to the lord Tyrawley, and the colonels Clayton and Pierce were wounded.

The enemy however did not improve the victory they had gained. The duke of Berwick was superseded in command by the duke of Orleans, who arrived in the camp a few days after the battle. This prince seemed to entertain some private views of his own; and instead of harrassing the dispirited allies, began a secret negotiation with the earl of Galway, during which the two armies lay inactive on the banks of the Cineu. He concluded the campaign with the siege of Lerida, which capitulated after a very brave resistance. In the beginning of November the troops on both sides were sent into winter-quarters. The earl of Galway, general Erle, and the marquis das Minas embarked at Barcelona for Lisbon; and general Carpenter was left as commander of the English forces quartered at Catalonia, which was now the only part of Spain that remained to king Charles.

The allies though less unfortunate, were equally unsuccessful in other quarters. A design had been formed in the course of the winter, for the conquest of Toulon, by the troops of the emperor and the duke of Savoy,

voy, supplied with a large sum of money by queen Anne, and assisted by the combined fleets of England and Holland, under the command of Sir Cloudesley Shovel. The scheme was laid with great sagacity, and might have had actually succeeded, had not the emperor, notwithstanding the repeated remonstrances of the maritime powers, divided his forces in Italy, by detaching a considerable body through the ecclesiastical state towards Naples, of which he made himself master without any difficulty. Besides a good number of recruits, which had been raised for the Imperial forces in Italy, were detained in Germany, from an apprehension of the king of Sweden, who still continued in Saxony, and seemed industriously to seek a pretence for breaking with the emperor.

Notwithstanding these discouragements, the duke of Savoy and prince Eugene passed the Var on the eleventh day of July, at the head of an army of thirty thousand men, and advanced directly towards Toulon, whither the artillery and ammunition were transported on board of the combined squadrons. They soon made themselves masters of the eminences that commanded the city, and, the ordnance being landed, erected their batteries. From these they began to

### 30 *The History of* ENGLAND.

cannonade and bombard the city, while the fleet attacked and reduced two forts at the entrance of the Mole; and co-operated in the siege with their great guns and bomb-ketches. The garrison was numerous and defended the place with great bravery. They sunk ships in the entrance to the Mole: they kept up a most furious fire from the ramparts: they made frequent and desperate sallies: and they even drove the besiegers from one of their posts with considerable loss. In this last attack, a prince of Saxe-Gotha, who commanded the post, was unfortunately killed.

The French king, alarmed at the design of his enemies, made prodigious efforts in order to raise the siege. He caused troops to advance towards Toulon from all parts of his dominions. He countermanded the forces that were on their march to improve the victory of Almanza: he recalled a good number of battalions from the army commanded by Villars on the Rhine, and he declared the duke of Burgundy should be sent at the head of a powerful army to the relief of Toulon.

The duke of Savoy hearing of these preparations, despairing of being able to reduce the place, and fearing lest his passage should be intercepted, resolved at last to abandon the enter-

terprize. The artillery being accordingly re-embarked, together with the sick and wounded, he decamped in the night, and retreated to his own country without molestation. Soon after, he undertook the siege of Suza, the garrison of which submitted at discretion. By this conquest he not only secured the entry into his own dominions, but likewise opened to himself a free passage into Dauphiné.

The attempt upon Toulon, though it proved unsuccessful, contributed considerably to distress the enemy. Eight of their ships of the line were burned in the harbour: twenty were sunk in the entrance to the Mole, few of which could ever be recovered: several magazines and above one hundred and sixty houses were destroyed in the city: and the devastations committed in Provence were valued at no less than thirty millions of livres: the French in general were seized with a greater panic than ever they had felt since the commencement of the present reign: the duke of Orleans was disabled from improving the victory of Almanza: the succouring of Naples was effectually prevented: and the conquests of the allies were in the mean time secured.

The expedition, however, was attended with a terrible disaster to Great-Britain, as well in  
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the loss of several ships of war, as in the unhappy fate of Sir Cloudefley Shovel, who was drowned in his return. That gentleman having left a squadron with Sir Thomas Dilkes for the Mediterranean service, set sail for England with the rest of the fleet, and was in soundings on the twenty-second day of October.

About eight o'clock at night, his own ship, the Association, struck upon the rocks of Scilly, called, The bishop and his clerks, and perished with every person on board. This was likewise the fate of the Eagle and the Romney: the Firebrand was dashed in pieces on the rocks; but the captain and four and twenty men saved themselves in the boat: the Phoenix was driven ashore, and all the crew preserved: the Royal Anne was saved by the presence of mind and uncommon dexterity of Sir George Byng and his men, who set their top-sails, when they were almost within a ship's length of the rocks; the St. George, commanded by lord Dursley, was driven on the same rock which had proved so fatal to the admiral; and the same wave which beat out the Association's lights, set the St. George afloat.

The admiral's body being cast ashore, was stripped by the country people, and buried in the sand; but was afterwards discovered

vered and brought into Plymouth, from whence it was conveyed to London, and interred in Westminster-abbey; where a noble monument was erected to the memory of this gallant officer, as a mark of gratitude for the signal services, which he performed to his country. He was born of mean parentage in the county of Suffolk; and by the force of his personal merit alone, without any particular patron, raised himself to the highest station in the navy.

On the upper Rhine the allies were unsuccessful. The prince of Baden was dead, and the German army so inconsiderable, that it could not defend the lines of Buhl against the mareschal de Villars, who, at the head of forty squadrons and ten battalions, broke through this work, esteemed the rampart of Germany, defeated a body of horse, reduced Rastadt, raised contributions in the dutchy of Wirtemberg and the city of Etlingen to the amount of three millions and nine hundred thousand livres, took Stuttgart and Schorndorf, and routed three thousand Germans, intrenched at Lorch, under the command of general Janus, who was made prisoner in the action. In all probability this active officer would have restored the elector of Bavaria to his dominions, had he not been prevented by the detachments  
which

# 34 *The History of ENGLAND.*

which were drawn from his army, in order to raise the siege of Toulon. The Imperial army retired to Hailbron, and the command of it was, at the pressing instances of the allies, assumed by the elector of Hanover, who exerted himself with uncommon diligence, in restoring military discipline, and defeated a body of French troops at Offenburgh; but he had not force sufficient to undertake any enterprize of greater importance.

The king of Sweden still continued in Germany; and his designs were kept so secret, that the allies began to be alarmed at his presence. It was therefore resolved to send some person of sagacity, to dive into his real intentions; and the duke of Marlborough was pitched upon as the most proper for executing that office. Accordingly, in the month of April, the duke set out from the Hague for Leipfick, with a letter from the queen to Charles; and, being admitted to an audience, \* is said to have addressed him

\* Monsieur de la Motraye mentions the following remarkable incident, relating to this affair. He says, that the duke having demanded an audience of count Plper, and arriving at the quarters of that nobleman, precisely at the time appointed, was told, that the count was busy, and was therefore obliged to wait half an

him in the following terms : “ Sire, I pre-  
“ sent to your majesty a letter, not from the  
“ chancery, but the heart of the queen, my  
“ mistress, and written with her own hand.  
“ Had not her sex prevented her from taking  
“ so long a journey, she would have crossed  
“ the sea, to see a prince admired by the  
“ whole universe. I esteem myself happy  
“ in having the honour of assuring your ma-  
“ jesty of my regard ; and I should esteem  
“ it a great happiness, if my affairs would  
“ permit me to learn, under so great a ge-  
“ neral as your majesty, what I want to  
“ know of the art of war. ”

To this studied compliment, the king is  
said to have answered, that the queen of  
Great-Britain's letter and the person of her  
ambassador were both very acceptable to  
him : that he should always have the utmost  
regard for the interposition of her Britannic  
majesty, and the interests of the grand alli-  
ance : that it was with extreme reluctance  
he had been obliged to give the least um-  
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an hour before the Swedish minister came down to re-  
ceive him : that, when he appeared at last, the duke  
alighted from his coach, put on his hat, passed the  
court without saluting him, and went aside to the wall,  
where, having staid some time, he returned, and ac-  
costed him with the most polite address.

• Lamberti, Vol. IV.

brage to any of the powers engaged in the confederacy; but that his excellency behaved to be sensible, that he had just cause to bring his troops into that country: that, nevertheless, his grace might assure the queen, that he intended to depart from it as soon as he had obtained the satisfaction he demanded: and that, in the mean time, he should carefully abstain from doing any thing that might tend to the prejudice of the common cause in general, or the Protestant religion in particular, of which he should always glory to be a zealous protector. \* The sincerity, however, of this declaration has been called in question. The French court is said to have gained over his minister, count Piper, to their interest. Certain it is, he industriously sought for a ground of quarrel with the emperor, and treated him with great haughtiness, until he had compelled him to grant all his demand. † The treaty

\* Lamberti, Vol. IV.

† Among other causes of complaint, which Charles had against the emperor, one was, that count Zobor, an Hungarian nobleman, son-in-law to the prince of Lichtenstein, had said, in company, that three knaves occasioned a great deal of mischief in the world; to wit, prince Ragotzki, king Stanislaus, and, though he did not name the third, he yet talked in such a strain, as plainly



treaty being at last concluded on the terms he thought proper to impose, he had no longer the least pretext for remaining in Germany; and therefore began his march for Poland, which was, by this time, overrun by the Czar of Muscovy.

The duke of Marlborough, arriving at Brussels, on the thirteenth day of May, assembled the allied army at Anderlach in the neighbourhood of that city; and hearing that the elector of Bavaria, and the duke of Vendome, who commanded the French forces, had quitted their lines, he advanced to Soignies, with a design to attack them in the plain of Flerus. But, receiving intelligence that the enemy was greatly superior to the allies in number, in consequence of the large draughts they had made from all their garrisons, he retired towards Brussels, and encamped at Mildert; while the French advanced to Gemblours.

VOL. XXXII.

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plainly shewed he meant the king of Sweden. Baron Strahlenheim, the Swedish ambassador, who happened to be present, was so incensed at this insult upon his master, that he gave the count a sound box on the ear. Charles, however, was not satisfied with this reparation. He peremptorily insisted on the count's being delivered into his hands; and this demand he had no sooner obtained, than, upon the count's making a proper submission, he set him at liberty with great generosity.

Both armies remained inactive; until the enemy sent off detachments to the relief of Toulon. The duke was no sooner informed of this circumstance, than he resolved to attack them in their entrenchments at Gemblours. But they retreated with such precipitation from one post to another, that the allies could not overtake them until they were safely encamped with their right at Pont a Trasin, and the left under the cannon of Lille, covered with the river Schelde, and defended by entrenchments. The confederates pitched their camp at Helchin, and foraged under the cannon of Tournay, within a league of the enemy; but could not, by any means, provoke them to an engagement: and both armies were put into winter-quarters about the latter end of October. The duke of Marlborough repaired to Frankfort, where he had a conference with the electors of Hanover, Mentz, and Palatine, about the operations of the ensuing campaign: then he returned to the Hague, and, having settled the necessary measures with the deputies of the States-General, set sail for England, where he arrived on the second day of November. \*

The

\* In the beginning of this year, a most bold and daring enterprize was undertaken by one Queintem, a partizan

The attention of the public was now engrossed by domestic transactions. The Whigs

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had,

partizan in the Imperial army. This was no other than an attempt to seize and carry off one of the princes of the blood of France. In order to execute this project, Queintem made choice of sixteen officers, and thirteen dragoons, all of them men of approved valour. Having procured three passports, each for ten persons, he divided his small troop in as many bodies, and ordered them to enter France by different routes, and rejoin each other in the neighbourhood of Paris. Reassembling at the place appointed, one of the parties was posted in the wood of Chantilli, another at St. Ouen, and the third, commanded by Queintem himself, was stationed at Seve, in the road that leads from Versailles to Paris. One of these, who acted as sentinel, was ordered to watch about the bridge of Seve, and, the moment he should observe any of the princes of the blood, to give immediate notice to his companions. One day he saw the duke of Orleans; but it was too light to make an attempt upon his person. Soon after, he met the dauphin and the princesses, going to hunt in the wood of Boulogne; but they were too well attended, to be mastered by such an inconsiderable party as Queintem's. At last, on the twenty-eighth day of March, between seven and eight in the evening, he perceived monsieur de Beringhen, first equerry to the king, crossing the bridge of Seve, in a coach and six with the king's livery, and followed by a few attendants; and, taking him for one of the princes of the blood, he instantly gave notice to his associates. The sentinel, himself, having been observed to pass the bridge three or four times in a hurry, was seized by those

had, for some time, enjoyed the chief savour and confidence of the queen, and possessed the

those who were on duty; and an account of his seizure immediately sent to the grand provost. Mean while, his nine companions, who were hovering on the farther side of the bridge, stopped the coach, and put out the flambeaux; when the partizan, taking monsieur le Premier (so in France they stile the king's first equerry) by the sleeve, told him, that he arrested him by the king's order. Monsieur le Premier answered, that he was just come from his majesty; and that he should be glad to know who he (the partizan) was and whether he had any officer with him, to whom he might speak. The partizan, without making him any reply, obliged him to get out of the coach, and mount a horse he had prepared for the purpose. The premier's valet begged he might be allowed to follow his master, but one of the soldiers ordered him to be gone, otherwise he would shoot him dead upon the spot.

The partizan, having thus, as he fondly imagined, secured his prize, resolved to make the best of his way out of the kingdom; and indeed, he would probably have accomplished his purpose, had it not been for two circumstances, one of them the effect of chance, the other of generosity. The person, it seems, who had been seized upon the bridge, happened to be their guide, and the loss of him proved a great impediment to them in their journey. The premier too, finding himself out of order, intreated the partizan to indulge him with a little rest; and Queintem, whose humanity was equal to his bravery, allowed him to repose himself for the space of three hours. Add to this, that he had provided his prisoner with a post-chaise, which could not

the principal share of the administration ;  
and, indeed, the services they had performed

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not move so swiftly as a horse, and had even cut and lowered its back, that the premier might sit with the greater ease. Notwithstanding these obstructions, he was actually within three hours march of a place of safety, before he was overtaken by his pursuers.

The premier's valet, finding it impossible to follow his master, had carried the news of his seizure to Versailles ; and the king was no sooner informed of the misfortune of his equerry, than he dispatched messengers to the intendants of the provinces, commanding them immediately to stop all the passages. At the same time he ordered the other equeries instantly to take horse, and to go in quest of their lost brother. These last rid with such expedition, and spread the intelligence with so much industry, that the partizan, on coming out of the forest of Chantilli, heard the alarm bells ringing in all the villages. He was somewhat disconcerted with this circumstance, and began to doubt of the success of his enterprize : nevertheless, he resolved to advance boldly, and accordingly proceeded as far as Ham, where, at last, he was discovered by a quarter-master, who rode up to him, and clapped a pistol to his breast. The partizan, being surrounded on all sides, was obliged to surrender, and would probably have met with very rough treatment, had not the premier called out of the chaise, that, for his own part, he had been extremely well used, and therefore desired that no harm might be done to his conductor. On the contrary, he entertained him that night at supper, carried him back to the court of Versailles, accommodated him with a lodging in his own apart-



## 42 *The History of* ENGLAND.

to their country were so great, the attachment they had discovered to the government was so sincere, that they well merited this honourable distinction. The Tories, however, could not patiently bear to be thus eclipsed by their political rivals, and they therefore exerted their utmost efforts, in order, if possible, to ruin their credit.

The person, under whose auspices they chiefly acted, was Mr. Harley, secretary of state, who had been put into that post by the interest of the duke of Marlborough and lord Godolphin, who, as he was descended of a Presbyterean family took him at first for a steady Whig, and were not convinced of the fatal mistake till after long and repeated experience. This man was assisted in his artful designs by one Mrs. Masham, a bed-chamber-woman to the queen and a near relation of the dutchess of Marlborough, who had rescued her from indigence and obscurity, kept her for some time in her own family, recommended her to the service of her majesty ;

apartments, and made him a handsome present for his humane behaviour ; as did likewise madam Beringhen, for the civilities he had shewn her husband. In conclusion, the partizan was honourably dismissed, leaving his enemies equally surpris'd at the boldness of the attempt, and the generosity with which he had conducted it,

majesty; and who now met with the return, which the generous too frequently receive from the ungrateful, to be undermined and supplanted by the person, whom she had thus raised from the dust.

These sycophants were perpetually endeavouring to persuade her majesty, that she was held in a slavish subjection by the Whigs, and was, in effect, but a cypher in the government: that the Tories were her only true and sincere friends: that they were all of them, attached to her person and government: that there was not such a thing as a Jacobite in the nation; and that she could never reign with ease and independence till she delivered herself from the hands of the Whigs and entrusted her affairs to the management of the Tories. These suggestions had unhappily but too much effect on the mind of the queen, who, like most other princes, was fond of a more absolute power and authority; and though she was ashamed at first, and perhaps even afraid, to discover her secret inclination, yet was she unable entirely to conceal it; for about this very period she bestowed the bishopricks of Chester and Exeter upon Sir William Dawes and Dr. Blackall, who, though otherwise men of unblemished characters, had openly condemned the revolution, and of consequence, could

## 44 *The History of ENGLAND.*

could not be considered as true friends to the Protestant succession.

The Tories, however, though, in a great measure, assured of the queen's affection, were nevertheless, afraid of a powerful opposition from the present parliament, which was chiefly composed of Whigs; and they therefore resolved, as soon as possible, to bring it to a period. The parliament had already sat two years; and, of course, according to the institution of triennial parliaments, it had only another year to sit. But as it had been revived, on account of its being the first parliament of Great-Britain, it was commonly supposed to be a new parliament. The Tories maintained the former assertion, the Whigs the latter: and these last, by their superior interest, were able to carry their point.

Accordingly on the twenty-third day of October the first parliament of Great-Britain assembled at Westminster, when the queen, in her speech to both houses, observed, that in so extensive a war as that in which they were at present engaged, many things behoved to be undertaken, which it might not be proper previously to communicate to the public: that the attempt upon Toulon was of that nature; and though it had not fully produced the desired effect, yet had it been attended with many, great, and obvious advantages,

vantages, and had paved the way, in the course of the next campaign, to the attainment of such as were greater and more important: that, as the French had gained ground in Spain, so had they been totally expelled from Italy; by which means it was become more easy for the allies to exert their united efforts in enabling the king of Spain to retrieve his affairs in that kingdom, and reduce the whole Spanish monarchy to his obedience: and that she hoped a faithful application of the sums granted her by former parliaments, the apparent necessity of continuing the war, the reasonable prospect, if they were not wanting to themselves, of bringing it to a speedy and happy conclusion, and the honour of the parliament of Great-Britain, would be fully sufficient to induce them to grant the supplies necessary for the ensuing campaign: that, in a work of such a delicate and intricate a nature as was that of the union, it was absolutely impossible but that some doubts and difficulties must necessarily have arisen; which, she hoped, however, were so far overcome, as to have defeated the designs of those, who would willingly have made use of that handle to excite disturbances in the kingdom: that, in this treaty, there were several things, which by the articles themselves, were expressly referred

ferred to the parliament of Great-Britain ; and which therefore, she took this opportunity to recommend to their most serious and mature deliberation : and that, on her part, nothing should be wanting to procure to her people all the blessings which could possibly flow from this happy circumstance of her reign ; to extinguish by all proper means, the least ground of jealousy, as if either the civil or religious liberties of any part of the united kingdoms could ever be endangered by the consequences of this union.

The two houses were differently affected by this speech of her majesty. The commons in their address, declared, that, notwithstanding the little success of the last campaign, they were still determined to exert their utmost efforts, in order to enable her, in conjunction with her allies, to bring the war to a speedy and happy conclusion. But in the house of lords, the earl of Wharton and lord Somers expatiated upon the scarcity of money, the decay of trade, and the mismanagement of the navy. They were seconded by the duke of Buckinghamshire, the earl of Rochester, the lord Guernsey, and by all the leaders of the Tory party ; though these last were actuated by very different motives.

The design of Wharton and Somers was to effect an alteration in the board of admiralty,



ralty, which was very improperly constituted; and the Tories, who did not perceive their drift, hoped, that, in the course of this inquiry, they should be able to fix the blame of all mismanagements upon the Whig-ministers. A day being appointed for the discussion of the matter, the house received a petition from the sheriffs and merchants of London, complaining of great losses by sea for want of cruisers and convoys; and these complaints were proved by witnesses. The report was now sent to the prince of Denmark, as lord high-admiral, who answered all the articles separately. Then the Tories moved for an address, in which the blame of the miscarriages might be laid upon the ministry and the cabinet-council: but the motion was rejected; and a true state of the facts was presented to the queen, who, at the same time, was desired to take such measures as she would judge most effectual for preventing the like evils for the future.

The commons made some progress in an enquiry of the same nature, and brought in a bill for the better securing the trade of the kingdom. They cheerfully granted the supplies for the service of the ensuing year, amounting, in all, to about six millions. They introduced another bill for repealing the  
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48      *The History of* ENGLAND.

the Scottish act of security, and that about peace and war, which had excited such jealousy in the English nation. They likewise resolved, that there should be but one privy-council in the kingdom of Great-Britain: that the militia of Scotland should be put upon the same footing with that of England: that the powers of the justices of the peace should be the same through the whole united kingdoms: that, for the better administration of justice in Scotland, the lord of justiciary, should go circuits twice in the year: and that the writs for electing Scottish members to serve in parliament should be directed, and returns made, in the same manner as was observed in England. A bill was formed on these resolutions, which were afterwards improved and enacted into laws.

The lords next proceeded to consider the state of affairs in Spain. The services of the earl of Peterborough were extolled by the earl of Rochester and lord Haversham, who, at the same time, levelled some invidious reflections at the earl of Galway, on account of his being a foreigner. Several lords demonstrated the necessity of prosecuting the war, until king Charles should be firmly established on the throne of Spain. The earl of Peterborough declared, that they ought to contribute nine shillings in the pound,

pound, rather than make peace on any other terms ; and, that, for his own part, he was ready to return to Spain, and to serve even under the earl of Galway.

The Tories were now become jealous of the duke of Marlborough, whom they considered as one of the chief supports of the Whig ministry ; and they therefore resolved to prevent him, if possible, from acquiring any addition of fame. The earl of Rochester said, he remembered a maxim of the old duke of Schomberg, “ that attacking France in the Netherlands was like taking “ a bull by the horns.” He therefore proposed that the allies should stand on the defensive in Flanders, and detach from thence fifteen or twenty thousand men into Catalonia.

In answer to this insidious proposal, the duke of Marlborough observed, that most of the forts in the Spanish dominions might be easily defended by a single battallion ; whereas the great towns in Brabant, which he had conquered, could not be preserved without twenty times the force : and that, if the French, from their superiority in point of numbers, should gain any advantage in Flanders, the discontented party in Holland, which was very considerable, and already complained of the war, would not fail to

cry aloud for peace. Being challenged by Rochester, to shew how troops could be procured for the service of Italy and Spain, he replied, that, though it was improper to disclose secret projects in so great an assembly, the rather as many strangers had been admitted into the house, on account of the queen's being present, and as there was great danger of their designs being betrayed to the enemy; he would yet gratify their lordships by acquainting them, that measures had been concerted with the emperor for forming an army of forty thousand men under the duke of Savoy, and for sending powerful succours to king Charles. The lords, satisfied with this declaration, put an end to the debate, and presented an address to her majesty, in which they thanked her for the steps she had taken for carrying on the war, and begged she would exert her utmost endeavours to persuade the emperor to make good the promises he had given to the allies,

About this time a discovery was made of some instances of treachery, which reflected severely on the character of Mr. Harley. One William Gregg, an inferior clerk in the secretary's office, was detected in a correspondence with monsieur de Chamillard, the French king's minister. He was immediately committed to Newgate; as were likewise

likewise John Bara and Alexander Valiere, who had been employed by Harley to bring intelligence from France, but, instead of performing that service to their country, had betrayed the designs of the English to the enemy. Soon after Claude Baude, secretary to the duke of Savoy's minister, was, at the request of his master, taken into custody, for traiterous practices against her majesty and her government. \*

A committee of seven lords being appointed to examine these delinquents, made a report to the house, which was presented to the queen in an address, importing, that Gregg had discovered secrets of state to the French minister: that Valiere and Bara were in the interest of France, and unfit to be trusted or employed by any persons in her majesty's service: that the correspondence they maintained with the governours and commissaries of Calais and Boulogne could only tend to the advantage of her majesty's enemies: that, in all probability, they had disclosed to the French the station of the British cruisers, the strength of the convoys, and the times at which the merchants ships proceeded in their voyages: that, notwithstanding the great importance, and even indispensable necessity, of keeping the de-

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signs of the government secret, all the papers in Mr. secretary Harley's office, had, for a considerable time, been exposed to the view of the meanest clerks; and the perusal of all the letters to and from the French prisoners chiefly entrusted to William Gregg, a person of a very suspicious character, and known to be extremely indigent: that it was hard to say what might have been the consequences of such unaccountable negligence and misconduct: and that they were confident her majesty, being now fully informed of the facts, would take effectual measures for preventing any dangers of the like nature for the future.

The queen replied, that she was extremely sorry, that any, who had been employed by those in her service, should have proved false to their trust and enemies to their country; but that she hoped the discovery, which had now been made, would be a sufficient caution to all her servants to keep the designs of the government as secret as possible, and to employ those and those only, in whose fidelity a confidence might be placed: Gregg was tried, condemned and executed, and, with his dying breath, acquitted Mr. Harley of any knowledge or concern in his treasonable practices; though it was strongly suspected, that he was induced to  
make

make this declaration, by the fond hopes of life, with which, it is alledged, he was artfully flattered to the very last moment. On the other hand the Tories did not scruple to insinuate, that the committee of lords had endeavoured to engage the criminal in an accusation of the secretary; and had even assured him, that he should obtain a pardon, as the reward of his compliance.

By this time the commons had passed a bill for rendering the union of the two kingdoms more entire and complete; enacting among other things, that, after the first day of May, there should be but one privy-council in Great-Britain. This clause was violently opposed in the upper-house, by the whole court-party; but as it was supported by all the Tories, and a considerable number of the Whigs, they proposed to compromise the matter, by agreeing, that the privy-council of Scotland should continue till the first day of October. Their intention in making this proposal was to have it in their power to influence the ensuing elections; but their design was so well known, that the motion was rejected, and the bill received the royal assent. Nevertheless a court of exchequer was erected in Scotland upon the model of that in England.

The shock, which Harley's credit had sustained from the execution of Gregg, and the examination of Valiere and Bara, was so far from inspiring that minister with greater modesty, that it only made him redouble his efforts, in conjunction with Mrs. Masham, to establish his interest upon a more firm foundation. The duke of Marlborough and the earl of Godolphin being informed of his secret practices with that low favourite, wrote a letter to the queen, importing, that they could serve her no longer, if Mr. Harley should continue in the post of secretary. Being summoned to the cabinet-council, they waited upon her in person, and repeated their former resolutions. She endeavoured to sooth their resentment with soft and gentle expressions; but they continued firm to their purpose; and immediately retired from court to the astonishment of all who were present. The queen, however, repaired to the council, where Mr. Harley opened the cause of their meeting, which was some circumstance relating to foreign affairs.

Symptoms of disgust appeared through the whole board. The duke of Somerset said, with some warmth, that he did not see how they would deliberate on such matters, while the general was absent; the other mem-

members observed a sullen silence : so that the council broke up, and the queen saw herself in danger of being abandoned by all her ministers. In order to prevent this fatal calamity, she sent the next day for the duke of Marlborough, and told him, that Harley should immediately resign his office, which was bestowed upon Mr. Henry Boyle, chancellor of the exchequer : but she seemed to retain a deep resentment of the behaviour of the duke and the earl of Godolphin, from whom she entirely withdrew her confidence. Harley was accompanied in his disgrace by Sir Simon Harcourt, attorney-general, Sir Thomas Mansel, comptroller of the household, and Mr. St. John, secretary at war, all of whom relinquished their offices.

The nation was at this time alarmed with the news of an invasion from France. Lewis, after having tried every method to bring the allies to a compliance with his proposals, resolved to excite a rebellion in Britain ; hoping, by this means, to prevent the English from contributing their proportion towards the prosecution of the war. This was certainly his real intention ; though he pretended that his sole design was to establish the pretender on the throne of his ancestors. With this view he began to make  
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preparations at Dunkirk, where a fleet was assembled under the command of the chevalier de Fourbin; and a body of land forces were embarked with monsieur de Gace, afterwards known by the appellation of *mâreschal de Matignon*. The pretender, who had assumed the name of the chevalier de St. George, was furnished with services of gold and silver plate, sumptuous tents, rich cloaths for his life guards, splendid liveries for his servants, and all sorts of necessaries in great abundance.

Lewis, at parting, presented him with a sword set with diamonds of a considerable value, and desired him always to remember that it was a French sword. The chevalier said, that, if it should be his good fortune to get possession of the throne of his ancestors, he would not be content with the returning him thanks by letters and ambassadors, but would come in person and acknowledge his majesty's protection and assistance. Lewis wished him all manner of success, and expressed his hope that he should never see him again. The pope contributed largely towards the expence of this expedition, and accommodated him with religious mottoes, which were interwoven in his colours and standards.

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The Dutch were no sooner informed of these preparations at Dunkirk, than they transmitted an account of them to the British court. The queen communicated the intelligence to the parliament; and both houses concurred in an address to her majesty, in which they assured her, that they would assist her with their lives and fortunes against the pretended prince of Wales, and all her other enemies. Then they passed a bill, enacting, that the oath of abjuration should be tendered to all persons, and such as refused it should be in the condition of convicted recusants. By another they suspended the *Habeas Corpus* till the ninth of October, with regard to all persons apprehended by the government on suspicion of treasonable practices. The pretender and his adherents were proclaimed traitors and rebels; and a bill was passed, discharging the clans of Scotland from all vassalage and subjection to those chiefs, who should take up arms against her majesty.

Transports were engaged to convey ten British battalions from Ostend; and the admiralty exerted itself with such incredible diligence, that, without diminishing the convoy for the Lisbon trade commanded by Sir John Leake, a fleet of twenty-six ships of the line, was in a few days equipped and  
failed

failed from Deal towards Dunkirk, under the conduct of Sir George Byng, and lord Dursley. The French, imagining that Leake had carried the whole fleet to Lisbon, were puffed up with the most sanguine hopes of success, and publickly boasted, that God alone could disappoint their designs. Great, therefore, was their surprize and consternation, when they beheld the other fleet in the neighbourhood of Mardyke : a stop was immediately put to the embarkation of the troops : frequent expresses were dispatched to Paris : the count de Fourbin represented the little probability of succeeding in the enterprize, and the great danger that would attend the attempt : but Lewis was bent upon the execution of the project, and gave positive orders for embarking the forces, and setting sail with the first favourable wind.

The British fleet being forced from their station by severe weather, on the twelfth day of March, the French took advantage of that circumstance, and, on the seventeenth, sailed from the road of Dunkirk : but the wind shifting, they anchored in Newport-pits, till the nineteenth in the evening, when they again set sail with a fair breeze, directing their course towards Scotland. Sir George Byng being informed of their departure,

parture, by an Ostend vessel, sent out for that purpose, by major-general Cadogan, and, being now reinforced to the number of forty ships of the line, detached a squadron under admiral Baker, to convoy the troops from Ostend to England, and, with the rest of the fleet, began to give chase to the enemy.

On the tenth day of March, the queen came to the house of peers, where, in a speech to both houses, she told them, that the French fleet had sailed from Dunkirk : that Sir George Byng was in pursuit of them : that ten battalions of her troops were embarked at Ostend, and were every day expected in England : and that nothing should be wanting on her part, to render the designs of the enemy ineffectual.

Both houses presented warm addresses, importing, that they would stand by and assist her majesty, against all her enemies : that the small number of ships and troops employed in this projected invasion, while it raised the contempt and indignation of all her majesty's faithful and loyal subjects, shewed, at the same time, that the chief prospect of success, which the enemy entertained, depended on their hopes of assistance from some of her subjects, whose restless passions, and arbitrary principles, had,  
for

60 *The History of* ENGLAND.

for several years, engaged them in laying designs to undermine and destroy the best form of government, that ever was established in this island: and that, as the present crisis would effectually distinguish her real, from her pretended friends, they hoped she would encourage the one, and discountenance the other, and would never listen to the suggestions of any, who endeavoured to excite a jealousy and distrust of those, who, ever since the Revolution, had been most steady and firm to the interest of the late king, and to that of her majesty.

The queen received these addresses with great cordiality; and, indeed, in her present distress, she seemed to cling to the Whigs with such a devoted attachment, that it is surprizing she could ever afterwards withdraw her confidence from the same persons. But such, in most princes, is the lust of power, and the impatience of contradiction, that they had rather be flattered in the road that leads to their ruin and destruction, than honestly advised to such measures, as lead to their real interest and advantage.

Mean while she exerted herself with uncommon diligence, in defeating the designs of her enemies. Several regiments of foot, with some squadrons of cavalry, were detached into Scotland; while the earl of Leven,

ven, commander in chief of the forces in that country, and governor of the castle of Edinburgh, hastened thither to put that fortress in a posture of defence, and to make dispositions for opposing the pretender, at his landing.

But all these precautions were rendered unnecessary, by the vigilance and good fortune of Sir George Byng. That officer sailed directly to the frith of Edinburgh, where he arrived but one day later than the enemy, who were so confounded at his sudden appearance, that they hoisted sail, and stood off to sea. The English admiral gave chase: and the Salisbury, one of their ships, was boarded and taken. At night monsieur Fourbin altered his course; so that, next day, they were at a considerable distance from the English squadron. The pretender proposed that they should proceed northwards, and attempt to land in the neighbourhood of Inverness, and Fourbin seemed willing to make the experiment; but the wind changing, and blowing in their teeth with great violence, he represented the danger of prosecuting the voyage, and, with the consent of the pretender, and his general, returned to Dunkirk, after having been tossed about for more than a month, in very tempestuous weather. In the mean time, Sir



George Byng sailed up to Leith road, where he received, from the magistrates of Edinburgh, the freedom of the city in a golden box, as a mark of gratitude for his having delivered them from the imminent danger, with which they were threatened.

What might have been the consequence of this invasion, had it actually taken effect, it is hard to determine; but, as it was happily suppressed in embryo, the only inconvenience it produced, was, that it occasioned a considerable demand upon the bank of England, which was like to have affected the credit of the nation. In order to prevent this public calamity, the commons resolved, that, whoever designedly endeavoured to destroy or lessen the public credit, especially at a time when the kingdom was threatened with an invasion, was guilty of a high crime and misdemeanour, and an enemy to her majesty, and the kingdom. The lord-treasurer, too, acquainted the directors of the bank, that her majesty would allow, for six months, an interest of six per cent. upon their bills, which was double the usual rate; and considerable sums of money were offered to them by this nobleman, as well as by the dukes of Newcastle, Somerset, and other peers.

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The French, Dutch, and Jewish merchants exerted themselves with great vigour, for the support of the bank; and the directors having called in twenty per cent upon their capital stock, were enabled to answer the demands of the timorous, envious, and disaffected: for, under one or other of these denominations, might be comprehended all those, who contributed to encrease the run. The first were the usurers and brokers, who dreaded a revolution, and were determined to secure their own property: the second were the goldsmiths, who had, before the erection of the bank, enjoyed the benefit of having the money of private persons lodged in their hands; and who being, by its establishment, deprived of that advantage, had always endeavoured to ruin its credit: and the third were the Jacobites, who hoped, by destroying the public credit, to sap the foundations of the government, and pave the way for the pretender's elevation to the throne.

All the noblemen and persons of distinction in Scotland, suspected of disaffection to the government, were apprehended, and either imprisoned in the castle of Edinburgh, or brought up to London, to be confined in the Tower, or in Newgate. Among these was the duke of Hamilton, who found means

64 *The History of ENGLAND.*

to make his peace with the ministry; and, in a little time, most of the other prisoners were admitted to bail.

On the first day of April, the queen came to the house of lords, where, after having thanked the parliament for the zeal and attachment they had shewn to her government, she prorogued them to the thirteenth, and afterwards dissolved them by proclamation. Writs were issued for new elections, together with a proclamation, commanding all the peers of North-Britain to assemble at Holyrood-house in Edinburgh, on the seventeenth day of June, to elect sixteen peers to represent them in the ensuing British parliament, pursuant to the twenty-second article of the treaty of union.

After the dissolution of the parliament, the lord Griffin, two sons of the earl of Middleton, and colonel Wauchop, who had been taken on board of the Salisbury, were brought to London, and imprisoned in the Tower. Lord Griffin, being attainted by outlawry for high treason committed in the reign of king William, was brought to the bar of the queen's bench, and a rule made for his suffering the penalties of law: but, though the queen was persuaded to sign a warrant for his execution, she granted him a reprieve  
from

from month to month, until he died of a natural death in the Tower.

The privy-council of Scotland, being limited to the first day of May, was now dissolved, and the first privy-council of Great-Britain was appointed. The duke of Queensberry was created baron of Rippon, marquis of Beverley, and duke of Dover; and the office of secretary at war, vacant by the resignation of Henry St. John, was bestowed upon Robert Walpole, a man of quick parts, masterly elocution, and one who made a considerable figure in the two succeeding reigns.

About the same time, a proclamation was issued for distributing prizes, in certain proportions among the officers and seamen of the royal navy; a regulation that still prevails. The capture was divided into eight equal shares, of which the captain, if he had no superior officer, was to have three shares; but, in the latter case, the admiral or commodore was to have one of the three. The commission-officers and master were to have one eighth: the warrant-officers one: the petty-officers one: and the sailors the other two.

The French king, not at all discouraged by the failure of his projected invasion, resolved to improve the advantages he had gained on the continent, during the last campaign; and, indeed, he made surprising efforts,

considering the low and ruinous state of his finances. He assembled a numerous army in the Netherlands, under the command of the duke of Burgundy, assisted by Vendome, and accompanied by the duke of Berry and the pretender. The elector of Bavaria was appointed to the command of a separate army on the Rhine, where he was seconded by the duke of Berwick ; and the Mareschal de Villeroy was sent to conduct the forces in Dauphiné.

On the twenty-ninth day of March the duke of Marlborough set sail for Holland, and in a few days arrived at the Hague. There he was met by prince Eugene, who had been sent thither by the emperor ; and these two celebrated generals conferred with the pensionary Heinsius and the deputies of the States-General. Then they repaired to the court of Hanover, where they persuaded the elector to be satisfied with acting upon the defensive in his command on the Rhine, and part with some of his forces, in order to enable the allies to make more vigorous efforts in the Netherlands.

The prince proceeded to Vienna, and the duke returned to Flanders, where, about the latter end of May, he assembled the army consisting of one hundred and fifty squadrons of horse, and one hundred and twelve battalions of infantry. The French army  
amounted



amounted to one hundred and ninety-seven squadrons, and one hundred and twenty-four battalions; and as they were thus superior to the allies in number, and headed by a prince of the blood, it was generally expected that they would hazard a battle; but it soon appeared, that they were resolved, if possible, to keep on the defensive, and to recover by the stratagem the places they had lost in their Netherlands.

The elector of Bavaria was extremely popular in most of the great towns: the count de Bergeyck, who had great interest among them, was attached to the house of Bourbon: and the inhabitants of the principal cities were naturally fickle, turbulent, and highly dissatisfied with the Dutch government. The French generals resolved to avail themselves of these circumstances. A detachment of their troops under the Brigadiers de Faille and Pasteur, surprized the city of Ghent, which was unprovided of a garrison. At the same time, the count de la Motte, with a strong body of forces, appeared before Bruges, which surrendered at the first summons. Then he proceeded to Damme, where he hoped to meet with the same success; but, the governour opening the sluices, and laying the country under water, he was obliged to retire. Disappointed in this quarter, he advanced to the  
little

little fort of Plassendahl : and the garrison refusing to submit, he attacked and took it by assault.

The duke of Marlborough was no sooner informed of the enemy's having marched towards Tubize, than he departed from Terbank, passed the canal, and encamped at Anderlach. The French crossed the Senne at Hall and Tubize, and the allies determined to attack them next morning ; but they passed the Dender in the night with great expedition ; and the duke of Marlborough next day arrived at Asche, where he was joined by prince Eugene, who had brought a considerable body of Germans from the Moselle. The enemy hearing that this general was on his march, resolved to reduce Oudenarde, the only post on the Schelde that remained to the allies, and accordingly invested it on the ninth day of July, hoping to subdue it before the allies could be reinforced.

The duke of Marlborough was immediately in motion, and marching with surprizing expedition, advanced as far as Herfelingen, where he took possession of the strong camp of Lesfines, which the enemy had intended to occupy, in order to cover the siege of Oudenarde. Thus disappointed, the French generals altered their resolutions, relinquished the siege of Oudenarde, and began to cross the Schelde at Gavre. The duke of Marlborough

borough and prince Eugene were determined to bring them to battle.

With this view general Cadogan was detached with sixteen battalions and eight squadrons to repair the roads, and throw bridges over the Schelde at Oudenarde. The army began to march about eight in the morning, and proceeded with such expedition, that, by two in the afternoon, the horse had reached the bridges, over which Cadogan and his detachment were passing. Major-general Rantzaw was posted with a good body of troops behind a rivulet that run into the river, and the rest of the forces advanced into the plain.

The enemy had planted five battalions in the village of Heynem, situated on the banks of the Schelde, and the French household-troops were drawn up in order of battle, opposite to the detachment commanded by general Rantzaw. The duke of Vendome proposed to fall upon the confederates when one half of their army should have passed the Schelde; but he was prevented by the duke of Burgundy, who had long been at variance with the mareschal. That prince had ordered the troops to halt in their march to Gavre, as if he had not yet formed any resolution, and he now recalled the squadrons from the plain, determined to avoid an engagement.

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Vendome remonstrated against this conduct, and the dispute lasted till three in the afternoon, when the greater part of the allied army had passed without opposition. Then the duke of Burgundy, changing his mind, declared for a battle; and Vendome submitted to his opinion with great reluctance, as the opportunity was now lost, and the army unformed.

Major-general Grimaldi was ordered to attack Rantzaw with the horse of the French king's household, who finding the rivulet marshy, were afraid to attempt a passage, and retired to the right of their army. Mean while Cadogan assaulted the village of Heynem, which he took, together with three of the battalions, by which it was defended. Rantzaw passing the rivulet, advanced into the plain, and drove before him several squadrons of the enemy.

In this attack, the electoral prince of Hanover, the late king of Great-Britain, gave early proofs of his martial disposition. He charged at the head of his father's dragoons with great intrepidity: his horse was shot under him; and colonel Luschky was killed at his side. Several French regiments were entirely broken, and a good number of officers and standards fell into the hands of the Hanoverians. The confederates still continued to pass the

the river, but few or none of the infantry were come up till five in the afternoon, when the duke of Argyle arrived with twenty battalions, which immediately met with a very warm reception from the enemy. By this time the French were drawn up in order of battle; and the allies being formed as they crossed the river, the two armies were engaged through the whole extent of their front about seven in the evening. The number of the French exceeded that of the confederates by twelve thousand; but their generals were divided; their forces ill disposed; and their men discouraged by the uninterrupted success of the allies.

Nevertheless, the action was maintained with great obstinacy till general Overkirk and count Tilly, who commanded on the left of the allies, compelled the right of the enemy to recoil; and the prince of Orange with count Oxenstiern attacked them in flank with the Dutch infantry. Then they began to give ground on all sides, and retired in the utmost disorder. The duke of Vendome endeavoured to rally his broken battalions; but, notwithstanding all his efforts, they were driven back among the inclosures in great confusion. Some regiments were cut in pieces, others desired to capitulate; and, if the darkness had not intervened, their whole army



## 72 *The History of* ENGLAND.

army would, in all probability, have been ruined. Night coming on, so that it was impossible to distinguish friends from enemies, the confederate generals ordered the troops to give over firing, and the enemy laid hold of this opportunity to escape by the road that lead from Oudenarde to Ghent.

The duke of Vendome seeing the French forces flying with the utmost precipitation, formed a rear-guard of about twenty-five squadrons and as many battalions, with which he secured his retreat. To this precaution was entirely owing the safety of their army; for at day-break the duke of Marlborough detached a large body of horse and foot under the lieutenant-generals Bulau and Lumley, to pursue the fugitives; but the hedges and ditches, which skirted the road, were lined with the French grenadiers in such a manner, that the cavalry could not form, and they were obliged to desist. The French reached Ghent about nine in the morning, and marching through the city, encamped at Lovendegen on the canal. There they thought proper, for their greater security, to cast up intrenchments, upon which they planted their artillery, which they had left at Gavre with their heavy baggage.

About

About four thousand were slain in the field of battle ; two thousand deserted : and above eight thousand were taken, including a great number of officers, together with ten pieces of cannon, above a hundred standards and colours, eight pair of kettle-drums, and four thousand horses. The loss of the allies did not exceed two thousand men ; among whom were major-general Berensdorf, and a few inferior officers.

After the confederates had rested two days in the field of battle, a detachment was ordered to pass the Lys, and level the French lines between Ypres and Warneion ; and another was sent to raise contributions as far as Arras, and struck terror even into the city of Paris. While the allies plundered the provinces of Picardy and Artois, a detachment from the French army, under the chevalier de Rozen, made an irruption into Dutch Flanders ; broke through the lines of Bervliet, which had been left unguarded, and fell into the island of Casandt, which they laid under contribution.

The confederates next undertook an enterprize, which the French, with their usual vanity, represented as an instance of the highest presumption and rashness. This was the siege of Lille, the strongest town in Flanders, furnished with all necessaries,

store of ammunition, and a garrison reinforced by one and twenty battalions of the best troops in France, commanded by mareschal Boufflers in person.

Nor were these the only difficulties which the allies had to encounter. The enemy had cut off the communication between them and their magazines at Antwerp and Sas-Van-Ghent; so that they were obliged to bring their convoys from Ostend along a narrow road, exposed to the attack of an army more numerous than that with which they had sat down before Lisle. On the thirteenth of August the place was invested on one side by prince Eugene, and on the other by the prince of Orange-Nassau, stadtholder of Friesland; while the duke of Marlborough encamped at Helchin to cover the siege. The trenches were opened on the twenty-second day of August; and the attacks carried on with such vigour and resolution as nothing could withstand.

The dukes of Burgundy and Vendome, being now joined by the duke of Berwick, exerted their utmost efforts, in order, if possible, to raise the siege. They made several marches and counter-marches, as if they intended to attack the allies. They endeavoured to surprize the town of Aeth, by means of a secret correspondence with the  
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inhabitants ; but the plot was discovered, and happily defeated. They attempted to intercept a convoy from Ostend, and actually attacked it with an army of twenty-two thousand men : but the party which guarded it, though not exceeding six thousand, made so gallant a defence, under major-general Webb, that they compelled the enemy to retire with the loss of upwards of seven thousand men killed on the spot. This was one of the most glorious achievements performed during the whole course of the war, and of so much importance to the confederates, that, if the convoy had been taken, the siege must have been raised. The elector of Bavaria too, with a detachment of ten thousand men, marched to Brussels, and assaulted the counterscarp with great fury ; but he was repulsed by the garrison, under the command of general Paschal, and fled with the utmost precipitation, when he heard that the duke of Marlborough was advancing against him.

Mean while, the besiegers prosecuted their operations with such incredible fury, that the garrison was unable to resist their attacks. On the twenty-third day of September, they stormed the tenaille, and effected a lodgment along the covered-way. On the twenty-second of October, mareschal Boufflers

capitulated for the town ; and, on the tenth of December, he was obliged to surrender the citadel, and was conducted, with his garrison, to Doway.

In the course of this siege, two daring and desperate attempts were made by the enemy ; one of which succeeded, the other, in a great measure, miscarried. The duke of Burgundy was extremely desirous of learning the situation of the garrison ; but, as the place was entirely invested, he was somewhat at a loss how to obtain the wished-for intelligence. This, however, was, at last, procured him by one Dubois, a captain in his army, who, notwithstanding the strict guards that were kept by the besiegers, resolved, by some means, to penetrate into the city. With this view he approached to the town on the side where it was only defended by water ; and having stripped himself, and concealed his cloaths, he swam across seven canals and ditches ; and at length, with much difficulty, got into the place. Mareschal Boufflers having furnished him with cloaths, conducted him to both the breaches, shewed him the condition to which he was reduced, and having written a letter to the duke of Burgundy, and sealed it up in wax, delivered it to the captain. Dubois, thus instructed, again undressed himself, and



and putting the letter in his mouth, re-passed the canals, and conveyed it to his highness.

Soon after Boufflers having found means to inform Vendome, that his powder was almost exhausted, the duke resolved to supply him, if possible, with that necessary commodity. Accordingly he detached the chevalier de Luxemburg with a body of horse and dragoons, each man having a bag of forty pounds upon the crupper. They approached the confederate camp in the dead of night, and being questioned by the out-guards, pretended they belonged to the allies, and that they were conducting some prisoners to the camp. But a subaltern officer having the curiosity to examine them more strictly, they found it impossible to dissemble any longer; and being determined, at all events, to get into the town, they clapped spurs to their horses, and rode at full gallop into the lines of circumvallation. The guards having fired at them, the whole camp was immediately alarmed; and some Palatine dragoons mounting their horses, pursued them close to the barrier of the town. The garrison being dilatory in opening the gate, several of them were killed by the allies; many were destroyed by the explosion of the powder which they carried; some wheeled about, and returned

into the confederate camp, hoping to escape by favour of the darkness: and about three hundred of the whole party got into the town.

During this siege Velt-mareschal Overkirk died at Rousselaer in the sixty-seventh year of his age, after having, in above thirty campaigns, exhibited innumerable proofs of uncommon courage, conduct, and capacity.

The French generals imagining, that the allies, content with the reduction of Lisse, would undertake no other enterprize during the remaining part of the campaign, separated their army, and returned to Paris. But the confederates were determined to crown their conquests with the recovery of Ghent, which they accordingly took, after a siege of ten days. The enemy, alarmed at this event, abandoned Bruges, Plassendahl, and Lessengen; and the generals of the allies, having settled the plan of winter quarters, repaired to the Hague, leaving the forces under the command of count Tilly.

Lewis was confounded and dismayed at the losses he had sustained in the Netherlands. Nor was he more easy on the side of Dauphiné, where, in spite of all the vigilance and activity of Villars, whom the French called the fortunate general, the duke of Savoy,

Savoy, made himself master of the important fortresses of Exilles and la Perouse, and of the Valley of St. Martin and Fenestrelles : so that, by the end of the campaign, he had secured a barrier to his own dominions, and opened a passage into the French provinces ; after having made a diversion in favour of king Charles, by obliging the enemy to send a large detachment from Roussillon to the assistance of Villars.

The allies were no less successful in Spain than in Flanders. The enemy, indeed, gained some advantages at the beginning of the campaign by the reduction of Tortosa and Denia, the garrison of which last were made prisoners of war, contrary to the articles of capitulation. But these losses were abundantly compensated by the conquest of Sardinia and Minorca. Sir John Leake, who commanded in the Mediterranean, having taken on board a handful of troops, under the conduct of the marquis D'Alconzel, sailed for Cagliari, the capital of Sardinia, and summoned the marquis of Jamaica, viceroy of the island, to submit to king Charles. That officer, neglecting to give an immediate answer, the admiral began to bombard the city, and the inhabitants compelled him to surrender at discretion.

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The greatest part of the garrison engaged in the service of Charles. The marquis D'Alconzel was appointed viceroy; and that nobleman having assembled the deputies of the states, they acknowledged king Charles for their lawful sovereign, and agreed to furnish his army with thirty thousand sacks of corn, which were accordingly transported to Catalonia, where there was great scarcity of provisions.

The conquest of Minorca, which followed soon after, was intirely owing to the courage and conduct of major-general Stanhope. That officer, having formed a plan for the reduction of the island, and concerted with the admiral the measures necessary for carrying it into execution, obtained from count Staremborg, the commander in chief, a few battalions of English, Spaniards, Italians, and Portuguese, with which he embarked at Barcelona, provided with a fine train of British artillery, and accompanied by brigadier Webb, and colonel Petit, an engineer of great reputation. They set sail on the twenty-third day of August, and on the twenty-sixth landed about two miles from St. Philip's fort with eight hundred marines, which augmented their number to about three thousand.

Next day they erected batteries; and general Stanhope caused a number of arrows

rows to be shot into the place, to which papers were affixed, written in the Spanish and French languages, importing, that all the garrison should be sent to the mines, if they would not surrender before the trenches were opened. The garrison consisted of a thousand Spaniards, and six hundred French marines, commanded by colonel la Jonquiere, who imagined that the number of the besiegers amounted to ten or twelve thousand; so artfully had they been drawn up in sight of the enemy. The batteries began to play; and in a little time demolished four forts, built in a wall which served as an out-work to the fort. Then they made a breach in the wall, through which brigadier Webb entered at the head of the grenadiers, and stormed a redoubt with undaunted courage. The garrison, alarmed at this circumstance, thought proper to beat a parley and capitulate, on condition that they should march out with the honours of war: that the Spaniards should be transported to Murcia, and the French to Toulon or Marseilles. These last, however, were detained by way of reprisal for the garrison of the Denià.

The number of the besiegers was so small, that they were obliged to stand at a considerable distance, in order to form the two lines, through which the garrison were to march. The enemy perceived and blush-  
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## 82 *The History of* ENGLAND.

ed at this mistake; but it was now too late to rectify the error. The Spanish governor was so affected when he learned the real number of the assailants, that, on his arrival at Murcia, he threw himself out of a window in despair, and was killed on the spot. La Jonquiere was imprisoned for life, and all the officers incurred their master's displeasure.

Fort St. Philip being thus reduced with the loss only of forty men, and the garrison of Port-Fornelli having surrendered themselves prisoners to rear-admiral Whitaker, the inhabitants gladly submitted to the English government; and general Stanhope appointed colonel Petit governor of Fort St. Philip, and deputy-governor of the whole island. After this important conquest, he returned to the army in Spain, where, in conjunction with count Staremberg, he formed a design for surprising Tortosa; but, either through the ignorance or treachery of the guides, the attempt miscarried.

The British fleet not only assisted in the reduction of Minorca, but likewise overawed the pope, who had endeavoured to form a league of the princes and states in Italy against the emperor. This pontiff had discovered his partiality to the house of Bourbon in so public a manner, that his Imperial

perial majesty resolved to make him feel the weight of his resentment. He accordingly ordered monsieur Bonneval to march with the troops that were in Italy, reinforced by those of the duke of Modena, and invade the dutchy of Ferrara. Bonneval obeyed his orders, and entering the Papal dominions, made himself master of Comachio, Lugo, Argenta, and some other places, pretending they were allodial estates belonging to the duke of Modena, and Fiefs of the emperor, to which the holy see had no lawful claim. The viceroy of Naples was forbid, on pain of death or banishment, to remit any money to Rome; and the council of the kingdom drew up a memorial, containing the pretensions of his Catholic majesty, which struck at the very root of the pope's temporal power.

His holiness wrote a remonstrance to the emperor on the injustice of these proceedings, and declared, that he would assert this cause, though he should lose his life in the quarrel. He accordingly began to levy an army, and revived the project of forming a league among the princes and states of Italy, for their mutual defence. In order to humble this haughty Pontiff, and punish him for the countenance he had given to the pretender in his expedition to Scotland, Sir  
John

84 *The History of ENGLAND.*

John Leake was commanded to bombard Civita-Vecchia; but as the emperor and the duke of Savoy hoped to compromise their disputes with the court of Rome, they persuaded the English admiral to forbear hostilities till they should have tried the milder method of negotiation.

The marquis de Prié, a Piedmontese nobleman, was sent as ambassador to Rome, but the pope refused to admit him in that quality. Encouraged by the promises of France, he set the emperor at defiance; and his troops, having surprized a body of Imperialists during a truce, were so cruel as to put them all to the sword. The emperor, however, had it soon in his power to retort these hostilities; though, to the honour of his character, he conducted the war in a more humane manner. The duke of Savoy having finished the campaign, the Imperial troops, which served under that prince, were ordered to march into the Papal dominions, and drove the troops of his holiness before them in every quarter. Bologna capitulated; and Rome began to tremble with the apprehension of being once more sacked by a German army.

The pope, alarmed at the impending danger, was glad to deprecate the wrath of his adversary. He received the marquis de Prié as envoy from the emperor. He agreed to dis-

disband his new levies ; to accomodate the Imperial troops with winter-quarters in the Papal territories ; to grant the investiture of Naples to Charles, and acknowledge him as king of Spain ; and allow, at all times, a passage to the Imperial troops through his dominions.

On the upper Rhine, the electors of Bavaria and Hanover were opposed to each other ; but they were, both of them, so weak, that neither could attempt any enterprize of importance. In Hungary, the disputes between the emperor and the malecontents still continued to prevail. Poland was at length delivered from the presence of the Swedish monarch, who advanced into the Ukraine against the Czar of Muscovy, notwithstanding the great concessions, which that prince offered in order to sooth his resentment.

In the course of this year, the English merchants met with no great losses by sea : the cruisers were numerous and active, and the trade was regularly supplied with convoys. In the West-Indies, commodore Wager encountered the Spanish galleons on the coast of Carthagená. He engaged the admiral, till she blew up in the air, and took the rear-admiral with a considerable treasure. Had the officers of his squadron behaved with proper spirit, the greatest

86 *The History of ENGLAND.*

part of the fleet would have fallen into his hands. At his return to Jamaica, two of his captains, Bridges and Windsor, were tried, and broke by sentence of a court-martial.

The court of England was at this time involved in a very disagreeable dilemma, on account of an insult offered to the person of the count de Matueof, the Muscovite ambassador. He was arrested in the street, at the suit of one Morton, a laceman, and maltreated by the bailiffs; who dragged him to a spunging-house, where he continued, until he was bailed by the earl of Feverham and a merchant in the city. Enraged at this indignity, he demanded redress of the government, and was seconded in his remonstrances by the ambassadors of the emperor, the king of Prussia, and several other foreign potentates.

The queen expressed uncommon resentment against the authors of this outrage, who were taken into custody, and ordered to be prosecuted with the utmost rigour of the law. Matueof repeated his complaints with great warmth; and Mr. secretary Boyle assured him, that he should receive ample satisfaction. Notwithstanding this assurance he demanded a passport for himself and his family, refused the presents that are usually  
made



made to ambassadors at their departure, and retired in disgust to Holland. From thence he transmitted a memorial, with a letter from the Czar, to the queen, insisting upon her punishing with death all the persons concerned in offering this affront to the person of his ambassador. Such punishment being altogether inconsistent with the laws of England, the queen and her ministry were thrown into the utmost perplexity, and held several councils to consider what course they should pursue in this delicate situation.

On the twenty-eighth day of October prince George of Denmark died in the fifty-sixth year of his age. His death was owing to an asthma and dropsy, with the first of which he had been afflicted almost from his infancy. He was a prince possessed of many amiable and engaging qualities, brave, generous, modest, and humane, but destitute of great talents, and little qualified for making a figure in the world. He had always lived in great harmony with the queen, who, during the whole course of their marriage, and especially in his last illness, approved herself a pattern of conjugal fidelity and tenderness. At the time of his death he was duke of Cumberland, lord high admiral of Great Britain, generalissimo of all her majesty's forces by

sea and land, and warden of the cinque-ports.

This event occasioned some changes in the ministry. The earl of Wharton was constituted lord lieutenant of Ireland; lord Somers appointed president of the council, and the earl of Pembroke created lord high-admiral. Notwithstanding these promotions of the Whig noblemen, the duke of Marlborough declined apace in his credit with the queen, who was privately directed in all her measures by Mr. Harley, though he had no visible concern in the government.

The Tories had exerted themselves with great industry in the new elections; but the zeal and activity discovered by the Whigs in defeating the pretender's design upon Scotland, had rendered the latter party so popular, that they easily gained a considerable majority. The parliament meeting on the sixteenth of November were informed, that as her majesty did not think it decent to appear in the house so soon after the death of her consort, she had, by a commission under the great seal, appointed the archbishop of Canterbury, the chancellor, the lord treasurer, the lord-steward, and the master of the horse, to represent her royal person. Sir Richard Onslow, being chosen speaker of the lower-house with the queen's approbation,

their favour ; but as they had been excluded from that privilege in the parliament of Scotland, they were likewise declared incapable of enjoying it in that of Great-Britain. New writs were accordingly issued to elect new members for the shires of Aberdeen and Linlithgow, in the room of William, lord Had-do, and James, lord Johnstown.

Petitions, at the same time, were presented to the upper house, by some Scottish lords, concerning their right of voting in the election of the sixteen peers for Scotland, and their power of signing proxies. After warm debates, it was determined, that a Scottish lord, created a peer of Great-Britain, should no longer retain his vote in Scotland ; and that the noblemen, who were in the castle of Edinburgh, had a right to sign proxies, after having taken the oaths to the government.

The Scottish peers and commoners that sat in the British parliament, were divided into two parties. The one was headed by the duke of Queensberry, who was in great credit with the queen and the lord treasurer, by whose interest he obtained the post of secretary of state for Scotland. The other was guided by the dukes of Hamilton, Montrose, and Roxburgh, who were supported by the earls of Sunderland and lord Somers, but  
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were not able to force themselves into an equal share of the administration. This rivalship had like to have occasioned a breach among the Whig party; but was happily prevented from producing any dangerous effects.

The principal affair, that came before the the parliament during this session, was the naturalization of foreign protestants. This point was debated with great warmth in both houses, and many shrewd arguments were advanced on both sides of this question. The Whigs spoke in favour of the bill: the Tories argued against it.

The latter alledged, that the conflux of aliens which would be the natural consequence of such a law, might prove fatal to the constitution: that they would retain a fondness for their native countries, and, in time of war, act as spies and enemies: that they would insinuate themselves into places of trust and profit; become members of parliament, and, by frequent inter-marriages, contribute to the extinction of the English race: that they would add to the number of the poor, already so expensive; and share the bread of the tradesmen and labourers of England.

The Whigs, on the other hand, affirmed, that, in all political disquisitions, it was an  
incon-

tion, the chancellor made a speech to both houses, importing, that the commissioners were commanded by her majesty to acquaint them, that she expected they would continue to prosecute the war with the same vigour and resolution, with which it had hitherto been conducted: that she hoped they would enable her to make such augmentation of her forces as they should judge necessary for preserving and improving the advantages which the allies had gained in the Netherlands: that she desired they would prepare such bills as might confirm and perfect the union: that, if they would propose means for the advancement of trade and manufactures, she would take pleasure in enacting such provisions: and that, as she had the most sincere regard for the preservation of their liberties and the support of the Protestant succession, she would continue to exert her utmost endeavours to defeat the designs of the pretender, and of all his open and secret abettors.

Both houses having presented addresses of condolence on the death of prince George, and of congratulation on the success of her majesty's arms; the commons took cognizance of controverted elections, which, such is the effect of party-spirit, were, without the least apparent necessity, decided in favour



of the Whigs, with the most glaring partiality. Then they proceeded to examine the different branches of the supply: they resolved that the forces should be augmented with the additional number of ten thousand men: and they voted above seven millions for the service of the ensuing year.

This they proposed to raise by a land-tax of four shillings in the pound, the duty on malt, and several other articles: but they would have found it difficult to provide funds for the whole supply, had not the bank offered to circulate two millions five hundred thousand pounds in Exchequer bills, for the government, on condition that the term of their continuance be prolonged for twenty-one years, from the first of August, 1711; and that their stock of two millions two hundred and one thousand one hundred and seventy-one pounds, should be doubled, by a new subscription. The commons accepted the proposal: and the two-third subsidy was appropriated for the interest of the money raised by this expedient.

The next object that engaged their attention, was the decision of Scottish elections; and the question chiefly turned upon this point, whether the eldest sons of Scottish peers were capable of sitting in the British parliament. Several things were urged in  
their

incontestable maxim, that the increase of people was the means of augmenting the wealth and strength of a nation: that this maxim was abundantly verified, not only in Prussia, Holland, and other Protestant countries, which had greatly increased in riches, by means of the foreigners that had there settled; but likewise in Great-Britain, where, by the industry and ingenuity of the French refugees, many new manufactures had been erected, and old ones improved, so as remarkably to improve the trade of the nation, and turn the ballance of it entirely against France: that, besides this improvement of commerce, the French refugees had contributed greatly to the revolution establishment, by putting into the public stocks, the best part of their own substance, and of that of their friends and relations abroad; of which there was a late instance, in their having subscribed near five hundred thousand pounds into the bank of England; so that, by a moderate computation, they had upwards of two millions in the funds of the government: that, as they could not be supposed to have brought one half of that money into England, so it was prudent, upon the conclusion of the war, to divert them from the thoughts of carrying it abroad, by granting them the advantages and privileges enjoyed

## 94. *The History of* ENGLAND.

joyed by her majesty's natural-born subjects; an indulgence, which would not only engage them to settle here, but would likewise bring over such of their friends and relations, as might hope to inherit their estates: that the French refugees had, at all times, in their several stations and capacities, given strong proofs of their zeal and attachment to the English constitution; and particularly, such of them as had been favoured with military employments either in the late or present war, had acquitted themselves with uncommon bravery and fidelity: that this war had already consumed such immense numbers of men, that it was absolutely necessary to supply the loss, by inviting foreigners to settle in the kingdom; and this expedient was equally requisite, whether the war continued, or was drawing towards a period; in the former case, the scarcity of men would be increased; in the latter, a greater number of hands would be wanted to carry on the several manufactures: and, in fine, that all the objections against a naturalization bill, were founded on the false supposition, "that foreigners would always continue and conduct themselves as such;" a supposition, refuted by the experience of this, and of every other nation.

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The Tories, unable to defeat the bill entirely, resolved, in some measure, to limit its effects, by obliging all foreigners to receive the sacrament, according to the institution of the English church. Had this restriction been actually imposed, it would have been attended with few bad consequences, as most foreign protestants were sufficiently inclined to accommodate themselves to the church of England. But it was judged more proper to make the terms as comprehensive as possible; and, accordingly, no other condition was required, than that those, who were naturalized, should take the oaths to the government, and receive the sacrament in some protestant church. In this form the bill was carried through both houses, and, at last, confirmed by the royal assent, though not without a number of protestations from those of the Tory faction.

The lords next proceeded to enquire into the intended invasion of Scotland, and the Tories exclaimed against the conduct of the ministry with great virulence, in that critical affair. They accused them at once of neglect and severity; neglect, in not providing a sufficient number of troops to defeat the designs of the enemy; and severity, in apprehending  
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ing such a number of innocent persons, barely on suspicion. But all the arguments they advanced on the subject, were so frivolous, and indeed, absurd, that they were justly thought to merit no regard. It was therefore resolved, by a great majority, that the ministry had behaved with all the care and fidelity which could reasonably be expected from men in their station. \*

This inquiry, however, gave occasion to a bill for regulating trials in cases of high treason in Scotland, according to the method of proceeding in England, with some small variation. This bill was warmly opposed by all the Scottish members, and by several of the Tories; but, notwithstanding their utmost endeavours, it was speedily carried through both houses, and, finally, passed into a law.

Nevertheless, in order to console them for this disappointment, the queen agreed to grant an act of grace, by which all treasons were pardoned, except those committed on the high seas: an exception levelled against those who had embarked with the pretender.

Some other matters of less importance passed in this session. Major-general Webb, having been defrauded of his due honour, in a partial representation of the battle of Wy-



Wynendale, transmitted from Germany, was now thanked by the house of commons, for the great and eminent services, which he had performed in that engagement. The same compliment was paid to the duke of Marlborough, even before his return to England. When the news arrived of Ghent's being taken, the lords and commons congratulated her majesty on this last great effort of a glorious campaign; and the duke, on his arrival, was thanked in the name of the peers, by the lord-chancellor. As he was supposed to have brought over proposals of peace, the two houses presented an address to the queen, requesting, that she would insist on the demolition of Dunkirk, which was a nest of pyrates, that infested the ocean, and did infinite prejudice to the trade of England. The queen replied, that nothing should be wanting on her part to obtain that and every other end, for which the war was undertaken.

The next address presented to her majesty, was the subject of much mirth to the public. An order had been made by the privy-council, in pursuance of her majesty's pleasure, that, in the form of a prayer used on her accession, the following words should be omitted, "and that these blessings may be continued to after-ages, make the queen

“ we pray thee, an happy mother of children, who being educated in thy faith and fear, may happily succeed in the government of these kingdoms.” This order seeming to intimate, that the queen intended to pass the rest of her days in widowhood; Mr. Watson, son to lord Rockingham, moved, that her majesty should be humbly requested not to suffer her just grief so far to prevail, but that she would, in compliance with the earnest wishes of her subjects, entertain thoughts of a second marriage. This motion was strongly supported by all the young members; an address was accordingly presented to her majesty to that purport. The queen said, that the provision she had made for the Protestant succession, would always be a proof of her hearty concern for the happiness of the nation; but that the subject of their address was of such a nature, that she was persuaded, they did not expect a particular answer.

The laws having been found insufficient to punish properly the author of the insult offered to the Muscovite ambassador, a bill was now prepared by the commons for preserving the privileges of ambassadors and other foreign ministers; and easily passed through both houses. By this act the persons of ambassadors and those of their servants,

vants, were effectually secured from the danger of arrest; though with this reasonable exception in favour of tradesmen, that no person should be prosecuted for arresting the servant of an ambassador, or public minister, unless the name of such servant was first registered in the office of one of the secretaries of state, and by him transmitted to the sheriffs of London and Middlesex, who should hang it up in some conspicuous place in their office,

At the same time another bill was passed to prevent the laying wagers, relating to the public; a practice, which had been carried to an extravagant length, and by which many unwary persons fell a sacrifice to crafty adventurers. On the fourteenth day of March the commons voted the sum of one hundred and three thousand one hundred and three pounds for the relief of the inhabitants of Nevis and St. Christopher's, who had suffered by the late invasion of the French; and the public business being now finished, the parliament was prorogued to the nineteenth day of May.

The Muscovite ambassador still continued to write expostulatory letters to Mr. secretary Boyle, who at last owned, that the laws of the kingdom did not admit of such punishment as he demanded. Nevertheless, in order to appease the resentment of the Czar, an informa-

tion was tried at the court of Queen's-bench for her majesty against Morton, the laceman, and thirteen other persons concerned in the insult, of which they were found guilty; and the special matter of the privileges of ambassadors was to be argued next term before the judges. About the same time, the queen gave a very honourable reception to two young Muscovite noblemen, relations of the Czar, who came to London in the course of their travels. She likewise condescended to make solemn excuses by her ambassador, Mr. Whitworth, for the insult offered to Matueof's person; to repair the honour of that nobleman by a letter, and indemnify him for all his costs and damages: concessions, with which the Czar and his ambassador declared themselves well satisfied.

The convocation was summoned, chosen, and returned with the new parliament: but as the old factious and violent spirit was still known to prevail, the queen, by writ to the archbishop, ordered them to be prorogued from time to time; so that they were not allowed to sit during this session of parliament.

The French king was by this time reduced to such a low condition by the numerous losses he had sustained, that he resolved to sacrifice all the considerations of pride and ambition to the re-establishment of the public

lic tranquility: or, to speak more properly, he determined to counterfeit such a disposition, in order to amuse and cajole the allies, hoping, by this means, either to break the confederacy, or, at least, to prevent them from taking the field so early as they might otherwise have been inclined.

With this view he dispatched the president Rouillé privately to Holland, with general proposals of peace, and the offer of a good barrier to the States-general. This minister had a secret conference with Buys and Vanderdussen, the pensionaries of Amsterdam and Gouda at Moerdyke, from whence he was permitted to proceed to Woerden, a place between Leyden and Utrecht. The States, unwilling to take any steps in an affair of this nature, without the participation of their allies, communicated the proposals of France to the courts of Vienna and Great-Britain.

Prince Eugene and the duke of Marlborough arrived at the Hague in the beginning of April, and conferred with the grand pensionary, Heinsius, Buys and Vanderdussen, on the subject of the French proposals, which were deemed unsatisfactory. Rouillé dispatched a courier to Versailles for farther instructions; and the duke of Marlborough returned to England, to inform the



queen of the progress of the negociation. Lewis, the better to carry on the deception, sent the marquis de Torcy, his secretary for foreign affairs, to the Hague with fresh offers, to which the states would give no answer, until they should know the sentiments of the queen of Great-Britain. The duke of Marlborough once more repaired to Holland, accompanied by the lord viscount Townsênd, as ambassador-extraordinary, and joint-plenipotentiary; and prince Eugene being likewise at the Hague, the conferences were immediately opened.

Torcy now began to act his part in the farce. He declared that his master would consent to the demolition of Dunkirk: that he would abandon the pretender, and dismiss him from his dominions: that he would acknowledge the queen's title, and the succession in the house of Hanover: that he would renounce all pretensions to the Spanish monarchy: and yield the places in the Netherlands, which the Dutch demanded for their barrier: and that with regard to the empire, he would restore all things, as they were settled by the treaty of Ryfwick, and demolish the fortifications of Strasburg.

These concessions were certainly very considerable, though perhaps not fully satisfactory,

atisfactory, at least, not sufficiently explicit. The allies, however, thought it but reasonable that they should have some other security than the French king's word for the performance of articles; and they therefore demanded, that, till these were executed, some cautionary towns should be put into their hands. Besides, as the recovery of the Spanish monarchy was the principal object of the war, they required, that the duke of Anjou should quit the kingdom within two months from the present date; and they further insisted upon the restoration of the upper and lower Alsace, the town of Strasbourg, the town and castellany of Lisle, New Brisac, Fort Lewis, and Hunningen.

Lewis was confounded at these demands; though he continued some time to dissemble his sentiments. At length finding it impossible to play the hypocrite any longer, he openly declared that the proposals of the allies were so extravagant and unreasonable, that he rejected them with disdain; and that he would expend his last farthing, rather than submit to such dishonourable terms. The conferences being accordingly broke off, Ronillé was ordered to quit Holland in four and twenty hours; and the confederate generals resolved to open the campaign without farther hesitation.

Prince

104 *The History of ENGLAND.*

Prince Eugene and the duke of Marlborough repaired to Flanders, and on the twenty-second day of June the allied army was assembled on the plain of Lisse, to the number of one hundred and ten thousand men. At the same time the mareschal Villars, esteemed the most fortunate general in France, appeared at the head of the French forces in the plain of Lens, where he began to form intrenchments. The confederate generals, having taken a view of his situation, and finding that he could not be attacked without great danger, resolved immediately to lay siege to Tournay, the garrison of which Villars had imprudently weakened.

In order the more effectually to conceal their design, they made a motion towards Ypres; and, while the attention of the enemy was wholly diverted to that quarter, they suddenly invested Tournay on the twenty-seventh day of June. The town itself was easily taken; but the citadel was so strong both by art and nature, and the governor, lieutenant-general de Surville, such an experienced officer, that, though he had only a garrison of twelve weak battalions, he continued to hold out for the space of a month with incredible valour.

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As the besiegers proceeded by the method of sap, their miners frequently met with those of the enemy under ground, and fought with bayonet and pistol. The volunteers on both sides presented themselves to these subterraneous combats, in the midst of mines and countermines big with ruin and destruction. Sometimes they were kindled by accident, and sometimes sprung by design: so that great numbers of these brave men were stifled below; and about four hundred of the confederates were blown into the air by one explosion.

At length the besiegers having effected a breach, and made the necessary dispositions for a general assault, the governour offered to surrender. Articles were drawn up, and transmitted to the court of Versailles; but Lewis refused to ratify them, except on condition, there should be a suspension of arms in the Netherlands till the fifth day of September. The allies rejected the proposal, and renewed hostilities with redoubled vigour; and the governour being now reduced to the last extremity, was obliged to surrender himself and his garrison prisoners of war, though they were permitted to return to France, on giving their parole that they would not act in the field, until a like number

ber of the confederates should be sent back in exchange.

Prince Eugene and the duke of Marlborough resolved to improve the advantage they had gained; and as Mons was the next place of greatest importance in those quarters, they determined immediately to lay siege to that city. With this view they passed the Schelde on the third day of September, and detached the prince of Hesse to attack the French lines from the Haisne to the Sambre, which were abandoned at his approach. On the seventh day of September the mareschal de Boufflers arrived in the French camp at Quievrain; content to act in a subordinate capacity to Villars, although an older officer than that general.

The duke of Marlborough being informed, that the enemy were advancing to attack the body commanded by the prince of Hesse, decamped from Havre, in order to support that detachment. On the ninth the allies made a motion to the left, by which the two armies approached so near, that they instantly began to canonade each other. The French army, amounting to one hundred and twenty thousand men, were posted behind the woods of la Merte and Trainiere, in the neighbourhood of Malplacquet. The confederates, nearly of the same number,

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encamped with the right towards Sart and Bleron, and the left on the edge of the wood of Lagniere; the head quarters being at Blaregnies. The enemy, instead of attacking the allies, began to fortify their camp, which was naturally strong, with triple entrenchments. In a word, they were so covered with lines, hedges, ditches, entrenchments, cannon, and trees laid across, that they seemed to be altogether inaccessible.

Notwithstanding these obstructions, the allies resolved to give battle to the enemy; and accordingly, on the eleventh of September, in the morning, they erected batteries on the wings, and in the center; and about eight o'clock, the attack began. Eighty-six battalions on the right, commanded by general Schuylemburg, the duke of Argyle, and other generals, and supported by twenty-two battalions under count Lottum, attacked the left of the enemy with such vigour, that, in spite of all the resistance they could make, they were, in less than an hour, driven from their entrenchments into the woods of Sart and Trainiere.

The prince of Orange and baron Fagel, with six and thirty Dutch battalions, advanced against the right of the enemy, posted in the wood of la Merte, and defended by three entrenchments. Here the battle was maintained with the most desperate valour on both sides.

108 *The History of ENGLAND:*

sides. The Dutch compelled the French to quit the first intrenchment; but were repulsed from the second with great slaughter. The prince of Orange renewed the attack with incredible fury; and the enemy continued, for some time, to make a most obstinate resistance; but, at last, seeing their lines forced, their left wing and centre giving way, and their general, Villars, dangerously wounded, they were glad to abandon the field of battle, and retreat towards Bavay, under the conduct of Boufflers.

The confederates took sixteen pieces of cannon, twenty colours, twenty-six standards, and a great number of prisoners; but this was the dearest victory they had ever purchased. Above eighteen thousand of them were either killed or wounded in the action; though the loss of the enemy was not much inferior. On the side of the allies, count Lottum, general Tetu, count Oxenfiern, and the marquis of Tallibardine, were killed, with many other officers of distinction. Prince Eugene was slightly wounded on the head. Lieutenant-general Webb received a shot in the groin. The prince of Orange had two horses shot under him, but escaped unhurt: as did likewise the duke of Argyle, tho' several musket-balls penetrated through his cloaths, hat, and periwig.

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Had the confederates attacked the enemy before they began to form their intrenchments, the battle would have been less bloody, and the victory more decisive; and the duke of Marlborough, it is said, was of this opinion: but he was persuaded, by prince Eugene, to delay the engagement, until they should be reinforced by eighteen battalions, which had been employed in the siege of Tournay: and, in the mean time, the French fortified their camp, so as to render it almost impregnable. Nevertheless, with all their advantages, they had little reason to boast of their success: for, besides the disgrace of a total defeat, they were so severely handled, that they were not able to make any other attempt for the relief of Mons, which surrendered about the end of October, nor once more to look the allies in the face, during the remaining part of the campaign. In the beginning of November both armies were put into winter-quarters.

On the Rhine nothing of importance happened, except one sharp action, between a detachment of the French army, commanded by the count de Borgh, and a body of Germans, under count Merci. This last had crossed the Rhine, in order to penetrate into Franche Comté; but he was attacked by the enemy on the twenty sixth day of

August, and obliged to retreat with the loss of two thousand men.

The campaign in Piedmont was equally inactive. Velt-mareschal Thaun commanded the confederates in that quarter, the duke of Savoy having refused to take the field, on account of some differences which had arisen between him and the emperor. Thaun at first gained some advantages. He obliged the French to abandon their lines at St. Maurice, drove them from those at Fesson, routed a small body of their troops at Conflans, and made himself master of the considerable town and castle of Anneci. From thence he proposed to continue his march, and lay siege to Briançon, and some other places, but the duke of Berwick had taken such measures, as frustrated his intention, though part of the troops under the French general were employed in suppressing an insurrection of the Camisars, and other malecontents in the Vivarez. These were entirely defeated in a pitched battle, and Abraham, one of their leaders, being taken, was broke alive upon the wheel; three and twenty were hanged, seven sent to the gallies, and the rest committed to prison.

The pope delayed acknowledging king Charles under various pretences, until he should see the end of the campaign, which  
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he hoped would prove favourable to the house of Bourbon : but, at length, the emperor giving him to understand, that his army should take up their winter-quarters in the ecclesiastical state, his holiness solemnly owned Charles as king of Spain, Naples, and Sicily.

The confederates were not so successful in Spain as in Flanders. On the seventh day of May, the English and Portuguese were defeated at Caya, by the Spaniards under the command of the mareschal de Bay. The castle of Alicant, garrisoned by two English regiments, had been besieged, and held out during the whole winter. At length, the chevalier D'Asfeldt, who conducted the siege, caused the rock to be undermined, and, having lodged fifteen hundred barrels of gunpowder, sent word to the governor, Syburg, that two of his officers might come out, and see the condition of the works.

This offer being accepted, D'Asfeldt in person accompanied them to the mine ; told them he could not bear to see so many brave men perish in the ruins of a place they had so gallantly defended ; and allowed them twenty-four hours to consider of the choice they should embrace. Syburg continued deaf to his remonstrances ; and, with an obstinacy which surprized the enemy, and alarmed



larmed the garrison, resolved to stand the explosion. The besiegers, finding him altogether immoveable, set fire to the mine, at the time appointed; and, when the centinels gave notice of this circumstance, by a pre-concerted signal, the governor ordered the guard to retire, and walked out to the parade, attended by several officers. The mine being sprung, the rock opened under their feet, and they falling into the chasm, it instantly closed, and crushed them to death.

Notwithstanding this dreadful incident, colonel D'Albón, who succeeded to the command, determined to hold out the place to the last extremity. Sir Edward Whitaker sailed from Barcelona to the relief of the place; but the enemy being apprized of his design, had erected such works, as effectually hindered the troops from landing. Then general Stanhope, who commanded the forces, capitulated with the Spanish general for the garrison, which marched out with all the honours of war, and was conveyed to Minorca, where the men were put into quarters of refreshment.

On the frontiers of Catalonia, general Staremberg maintained his ground, and even annoyed the enemy. He passed the Segra without opposition, reduced Balaguer with-

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out opposition, where he took nine hundred prisoners; and, having secured the place with a strong garrison, he repassed the river, and sent his forces into winter-quarters.

The king of Sweden, who had long been the terror of the northern potentates, was, by this time, reduced to a most wretched condition. Having advanced into Muscovy with too little precaution, he was suddenly cut off from all means of retreat, was attacked by the czar in the neighbourhood of Pultowa, was entirely defeated, with the loss of his camp, baggage, and artillery, and obliged to take refuge at Bender, a town of Moldavia, in the Turkish dominions. King Augustus was no sooner informed of this circumstance, than he marched into Poland against Stanislaus, and renounced his own resignation, which he pretended was the effect of compulsion. He formed a project, with the kings of Denmark and Prussia, and the czar of Muscovy, to attack the Swedes in three different quarters; but the emperor and the maritime powers prevented this scheme from being carried into execution, by entering into a guaranty for preserving the peace of the empire; by which means the Swedish dominions in Germany were secured. Nevertheless, the king of Denmark declared war against Sweden, and, about

# 114 *The History of ENGLAND.*

the middle of November, transported an army over the Sound to Schonen; but they were attacked by the Swedes in the neighbourhood of Helsingburg, where they were totally routed, and obliged to reembark with the utmost precipitation. The war still continued to rage in Hungary, where, however, the malecontents were worsted in several petty rencounters.

At the conclusion of the campaign, the French king endeavoured to renew the negociation for a peace; though he still acted with the same insincerity as formerly. His minister, Torcy, maintained a correspondence with Mr. Petkum, the resident of the duke of Holstein, at the Hague, to whom he proposed, that conferences for a treaty should be again opened; and demanded passes, by virtue of which the French plenipotentiaries might repair in safety to Holland. In the mean time, Lewis recalled his forces from Spain, on pretence of demonstrating his pacific disposition; though it was well known that this measure was the effect of necessity, as he really wanted these troops for the defence of his own dominions.

The States-General refused to grant passes to the French ministers; conscious that they only intended to sow jealousies among the allies: but they permitted Petkum to make a journey

journey to Versailles, in order to learn the sentiments of Lewis. Mean while, king Philip, who acted solely by the direction of his grandfather, published a manifesto, protesting against all that should be transacted at the Hague to his prejudice; and, instead of yielding Spain and the Indies to his competitor, declared his resolution of driving Charles from those places that were now in his possession. He named the duke of Alba and count Bergheyck for his plenipoten-tiaries, and ordered them to notify their credentials to the maritime powers; but no regard was paid to their intimation. He likewise endeavoured, by large promises and professions, to engage the duke of Marlborough in his interest; but all his application and address proved ineffectual.

Petkum brought back from Versailles a kind of memorial, importing, that the motives, which influenced the French king before the campaign was opened, no longer subsisted: that the winter-season naturally produced a cessation of arms, during which he would treat of a peace, without restricting himself to those preliminaries which had been settled in the course of the former negotiation: that, nevertheless, though he receded from the "form" he would still adhere to the "substance" of the preliminaries,  
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would treat on the foundation of those conditions to which he had consented, and would send plenipotentiaries to confer with those of the allies, at whatever time and place should be mutually agreed.

From this artful distinction between the “form” and “substance” of the preliminaries, and indeed from the whole spirit of the memorial, the States-General plainly perceived, that the French king was not sincere in his professions; and that he had no other design than to amuse the confederates with false hopes, in order, if possible, to retard their preparations. They therefore rejected his proposal, and came to a resolution, that it was absolutely necessary to prosecute the war with the utmost vigour; and they wrote very pressing letters on this subject to all their allies.

About this time there happened an event which gave the English a fine opportunity of exercising their generosity. Many Germans being driven from their habitations by the calamities of war, and the severity of the season, came over to England, to the number of six thousand persons. As they were destitute of all necessaries, they must inevitably have perished, had they not been relieved at first by a daily allowance from the queen, and afterwards by the voluntary contributions



tributions of the people. Several were engaged as servants in private families, some were sent to Ireland, others to Carolina, and the greatest part were transported to New York, under the direction of commissary du Pré.

The parliament being assembled on the fifteenth day of November, the queen made a speech to both houses, importing, that the enemy had endeavoured, by false appearances, and deceitful insinuations of a desire after peace, to create jealousies and divisions among the allies; but they had been disappointed in their expectations; and such measures had been taken as made it impossible for them to disguise their insincerity: that God almighty had been pleased to bless the arms of the confederates with a most remarkable victory, and other successes which had laid France open to the impression of the allied arms, and consequently rendered peace more necessary to that kingdom than it was at the beginning of the campaign: that she hoped they would enable her to prosecute the advantages she had gained, by reducing, within proper limits, that exorbitant and oppressive power, which had so long threatened the liberties of Christendom: that the great dearth and scarcity, which afflicted the other nations of  
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## 118 *The History of ENGLAND.*

Europe, began, in some measure, to affect Great-Britain: that this calamity was still further encreased by the exportation of corn; a traffic to which the merchants were tempted by the immense profits they gained by that practice: that she hoped the parliament would fall upon some method to prevent this growing evil: and that nothing should be wanting on her part to attain to necessary and desirable an end.

Both houses presented warm addresses, in which they expressed their joy to see her majesty once more upon the throne after the great misfortune, which had deprived them of her presence during the last session of parliament; congratulated her on the success of her arms and those of her allies; and promised to support her in the vigorous prosecution of the war. As a proof of their sincerity, the commons granted upwards of six millions for the service of the ensuing year, and established a lottery and other funds, to make good this great supply. At the same time both houses thanked the duke of Marlborough for the late victory he had obtained, and for the many other eminent services, which he had performed to the nation.

The affair which chiefly engaged the attention of the parliament, during this session,

son, was, in appearance, of a very trifling and insignificant nature, but was attended with consequences of the utmost importance to the public, occasioned a total change in the ministry, and, in the end, had like to have proved fatal to the very liberties of the nation. This was a sermon preached by Dr. Henry Sacheverel, rector of St. Saviour's, Southwark; a man possessed of little sense, genius, or learning, but rash, headstrong, furious, and bigotted, and who had long distinguished himself by the most violent declamations against low churchmen and dissenters, against the union and toleration, in a word, against every thing that tended to preserve the peace, or promote the welfare of the kingdom.

He was first presented to a small living in Staffordshire, when, like all other enthusiasts, he soon drew about him a croud of admirers. Being afterwards preferred by a popular election, to the rectory of St. Saviour's in Southwark, the number of his followers, as might be expected, considerably increased; and he was universally regarded by all the great and low vulgar, as the principal champion and defender of the church. On the fifth day of November, he, in a furious declamation, defended the doctrine of passive obedience and non-resistance;

ance; inveighed against the toleration and dissenters; declared the church was dangerously attacked by her enemies, and slightly defended by her false friends: "he sounded," as he himself expressed it, "the trumpet for the church, and exhorted the people to put on the whole armour of God." This harangue was countenanced by Sir Samuel Garrard, the lord-mayor, and published under his protection: it was extolled by the Tories, as a most excellent performance, and circulated with great industry all over the nation.

On the thirteenth day of December, Mr. Dolben, son to the late archbishop of York, and member of the present parliament, complained to the house of this sermon of Sacheverel's, and of another in the same strain, which he had preached at the Derby-assizes, as containing positions contrary to the Revolution-principles, to the present government, to the Protestant succession, and consequently tending to cherish factions and excite insurrections in the kingdom. This complaint being seconded by Sir Peter King and other members, and no one offering to speak in the doctor's defence, the most violent paragraphs were read; and the ser-

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mons were voted scandalous and seditious libels.

Sacheverel being brought to the bar of the house, acknowledged himself author of both, and mentioned the encouragement he had received from the lord-mayor to print that which was intitled. "The perils of false brethren." Sir Samuel, who was a member, denied that ever he had given him such encouragement. Sacheverel offered to prove the contrary. But, though the house, in general, were convinced of the mayor's imprudence, they did not think it proper to engage him in a contest with a man of the doctor's character; and the rather, as the consequence, let it have been what it would, could not, in the least, have affected the present question. The doctor being ordered to withdraw, the house resolved, that he should be impeached of high crimes and misdemeanours, and Mr. Dolben accordingly was directed to impeach him at the bar of the house of lords, in the name of all the commons of Great-Britain. A committee was appointed to draw up the articles, and Sacheverel was taken into custody.

At the same time in order to discountenance these slavish doctrines, and encourage the spirit of liberty, they resolved that Mr. Benjamin Hoadly, rector of St. Peter le



Poor, for having often justified the principles, on which her majesty and the nation proceeded in the late happy revolution, had justly merited the favour and recommendation of the house; and they presented an address to the queen, beseeching her to bestow some dignity in the church on Mr. Hoadly, for his eminent services to the church and state. The queen promised to comply with their request; but such unhappily was the force of her prejudices, that she could never be persuaded to perform her promise.

Hoadly was a clergyman of distinguished parts, unblemished character, and uncommon moderation, who, in a sermon preached before the lord-mayor of London, had demonstrated the lawfulness of resisting cruel and wicked governours; and vindicated the Revolution, and the present government. By avowing such maxims, he had exposed himself to the hatred of all the high-churchmen, who charged him with having preached up rebellion and sedition. Many books were written against him; but these he answered in such a manner as plainly showed, that he was as much superior to his antagonists in abilities, as the doctrine he supported was more reasonable than that which they defended. He as well as bishop Bur-

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net and several other prelates, had been treated with great severity in Sacheverel's sermon; and that incendiary had carried his reflections as far back as to archbishop Grindal, whom, on account of his moderation, he called a " perfidious prelate, and a false son of the church." The doctor being impeached at the bar of the upper house, petitioned, that he might be admitted to bail; but as there were no precedents for such an indulgence to persons in his situation, the commons refused to grant his request.

Whether the Tories had any hand in exciting this flame, it is difficult to determine: certain it is, they did not fail to contribute their assistance in blowing it up to a higher pitch, in order to convert it to their own advantage. They boldly affirmed, that the Whigs had formed a design to pull down the church; and that this prosecution was only intended to try their strength, before they would proceed to the execution of their project. These assertions were supported and repeated by all the clergy of the high-church party, who took care to alarm and inflame their hearers; while emissaries were employed to raise a ferment among the populace, always ready to engage in any tumult, and already discontented by the

124 *The History of ENGLAND.*

scarcity of provisions, that prevailed in the kingdom.

These incendiaries magnified the dangers to which the church was exposed, from dissenters, Whigs and lukewarm prelates: whom they invidiously represented as the authors of a war, which would, in a little time, produce an universal famine; and as the immediate encouragers of those German Refugees, who had eat up the bread of the poor of England. Thus the glorious successes of the war, which had reduced the power of France to the lowest condition, and the noble instances of generosity, which had been shown to the unhappy Germans, were, by the malice of the Tories, and the credulity of the populace, converted into so many crimes.

The articles against Dr. Sacheverel being exhibited, his person was committed to the deputy-usher of the black-rod; and the lords admitted him to bail. Being now at liberty, he consulted some eminent lawyers and divines, and, with their assistance, drew up an answer to the charge, in which he denied some articles, and others he endeavoured to justify or extenuate. The commons having sent up a replication, declaring they were ready to prove the charge, the lords

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appointed the twenty-seventh day of February\* for the trial, in Westminster-Hall.

The eyes of the whole nation were fixed upon this extraordinary trial. It lasted three weeks, during which all other business was suspended; and the queen herself was every day present, though in the quality of a private spectator. The managers for the commons were Sir John Holland, comptroller of her majesty's household, Mr. secretary Boyle, Mr. Smith, chancellor of the exchequer, Sir James Montague, attorney-general, Mr. Robert Eyre, solicitor-general, Mr. Walpole, treasurer of the navy, lieutenant general Stanhope, Sir Peter King, recorder of the city of London, Sir Joseph Jekyl, Sir Thomas Parker, Sir David Dalrymple and others. The doctor was defended by Sir Simon Harcourt, Mr. Dodd. Mr. Phipps, Mr. Dee, and doctor Henchman.

The arguments for and against passive-obedience and non-resistance; or, in other words, the arguments in support of liberty, and those in defence of slavery, are so well known, and indeed so numerous, that the reader will hardly expect to find them in a general history. The invectives, contained in the sermons, against the revolution, the tolera-

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tion, the union, the dissenters, and the administration, were so explicit, and the doctor so frankly owned himself the author of these sermons, that there was no need of any proof on that subject. The speakers, however, on either side, exhausted their whole fund of learning and ingenuity on both these topics; though, to every impartial and unprejudiced person, it must appear, that nothing could be advanced in favour of the doctor, but a few metaphysical quibbles, and jesuitical evasions.

But what the doctor wanted in argument, was abundantly supplied by the favour of the populace. A vast multitude attended him every day to and from Westminster-hall, striving to kiss his hand, and praying for his deliverance, as if he had been a martyr and confessor. The queen's sedan was beset by the rabble, exclaiming, "God bless your majesty and the church: We hope your majesty is for Dr. Sacheverel." They compelled all persons to lift their hats to the doctor, as he passed in his coach to the Temple, where he lodged; and, among these, several members of parliament, whom they abused and insulted in a most outrageous manner.

Not content with these instances of violence, they proceeded to greater enormities,  
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and even to overt-acts of rebellion. They forced open several meeting-houses, broke down the pulpits, pews, and benches, and, carrying them into the fields and squares, committed them to the flames, with repeated huzzas of "high church and Sacheverel." They plundered the dwelling-houses of many eminent dissenters, and threatened to pull down those of the lord-chancellor, the earl of Wharton, and the bishop of Salisbury. They even proposed to attack the bank; so that the directors were obliged to send to Whitehall for assistance. The horse and foot guards were immediately ordered to disperse the mob, who fled at their approach. Next day the guards were doubled at Whitehall, and the trained-bands of Westminster were continued in arms during the whole trial.

The commons besought the queen, in an address, to take effectual measures for suppressing the present tumults, excited and encouraged by Papists, Non-jurors, and other enemies to her title and government. She expressed a deep sense of their care and concern for the public peace, as well as a just resentment of these tumultuous and violent proceedings. She published a proclamation for suppressing the tumults, and several persons being apprehended, were afterwards tried for high treason. Two of them were  
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found guilty, and condemned to die ; but, as a proof of the queen's prejudices, neither of them suffered.

The commons presented another address, in which they thanked her majesty for the gracious answer she had given to their first remonstrance. They took this opportunity to assure her, that the prosecution of the commons against Dr. Henry Sacheverel, proceeded only from the indispensable obligation they lay under to vindicate the late happy Revolution, the glory of their royal deliverer, her own title and administration, the present establishment and Protestant succession, together with the toleration, and the quiet of the government ; and they declared that they would, upon all occasions, venture all that was dear to them, in support of these inestimable blessings.

When the doctor's council had finished his defence, he himself recited a speech, in which he contradicted almost every word of his sermon. He justified his intentions towards the queen and the government ; and spoke in the most respectful terms of the Revolution, and the Protestant succession. He maintained, indeed, the doctrine of passive-obedience and non-resistance, as a maxim of the church in which he was educated ; and, by many pathetic expressions, endeavour-

ed to move the compassion of the audience. This speech was so much superior, both in stile and sentiment, to the doctor's own compositions, that it was universally believed to have been made for him; and it was commonly supposed to have been the joint production of Dr. Atterbury, Dr. Smalridge, Dr. Friend, Sir Simon Harcourt, and Mr. Phipps.

On the tenth day of March, the earl of Nottingham having signified to the lords, that he had something to communicate to their lordships, they immediately adjourned to their own house, when the earl proposed the following question: "Whether, in prosecutions by impeachments for high crimes and misdemeanors, by writing or speaking, the particular words supposed to be criminal, were necessary to be expressly specified in both impeachments?" The judges being consulted, gave it as their opinion, that, according to law, the grounds of an indictment or impeachment ought to be expressly mentioned in both.

Had this maxim been admitted, it would have overturned the whole prosecution, and the commons would have been obliged to begin it afresh. But one of the lords having suggested, that the judges had delivered their opinion according to the rules of Westminster-

minster-hall, and not according to the usage of parliament, the house resolved, that, in impeachments, they should proceed according to the laws of the land, and the law and usage of parliaments; and for this resolution they had the precedent of Dr. Manwaring, in the reign of Charles the first,

On the sixteenth day of the month, the queen being in the house incognito, they proceeded to consider, whether the commons had proved the articles exhibited against Dr. Henry Sacheverel. The earl of Wharton began the debate by observing, that the doctor's speech and sermon were in a very different strain: that the former was a full confutation and condemnation of the latter: that all he had advanced about non-resistance and unlimited obedience, was false and ridiculous: that the doctrine of passive obedience, as urged by the doctor, was not reconcileable to the practice of churchmen: that, if the Revolution was not lawful, many in that house, and vast numbers without, were guilty of blood, murder, rapine, and injustice; and that the queen herself was no lawful sovereign, since the best title she had to the crown, was her parliamentary title, founded on the Revolution.

He was answered by lord Haversham, in a long speech. Lord Ferrers said, that if  
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the doctor was guilty of some foolish unguarded expressions, he ought to have been tried at common law ; but he doubted whether, even in the inferior courts, there would have been sufficient matter to convict him. The earl of Scarborough alledged, that the Revolution was a nice point, and above the law, and he therefore moved, that they should adjourn the debate, and take time to consider before they gave judgment.

Dr. Hooper, bishop of Bath and Wells, observed, that the necessity and legality of resistance must certainly be allowed in some extraordinary cases ; but that, in his opinion, this maxim ought to be concealed from the people, who are naturally too apt to resist : that the Revolution was not to be boasted of, or made a precedent ; but that a mantle ought to be thrown over it, and it should be called a vacancy or abdication : that the original contract were dangerous words, not to be mentioned without great caution : that those who examined the Revolution too nicely, were not its friends : and that there seemed to be a necessity for preaching up non-resistance and passive-obedience at a time, when resistance was justified.

The duke of Argyle affirmed, that the clergy had, in all ages, delivered up the  
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rights and privileges of the people, preaching up the king's power, in order to govern the more easily ; and therefore, they ought not to be suffered to meddle with politics. The earl of Anglesey acknowledged, the doctor had preached nonsense, but said that was no crime. The duke of Leeds alledged, that they ought to distinguish between Revolution and resistance ; for, had not the first succeeded, the last would certainly have been rebellion, since he knew of no other than hereditary right.

The bishop of Salisbury observed, that nothing could be more false than an opinion, too commonly received, that the church of England had always condemned resistance, even in cases of tyranny and oppression : that the books of the Maccabees, bound up with the bible, and approved by the articles, as containing examples of life and rules of conduct, though not considered as any part of the cannon of scripture, furnished a full and clear precedent for resisting and shaking off the government of tyrants : that the Jews under that brave family, not only defended themselves against Antiochus, but formed themselves into a free and independent state : that the homilies of the church were only directed against unprovoked rebellion ; such as had been usually excited against  
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the kings of England, while they were regulating their conduct by the laws of the land : that, nevertheless, at the very time of composing these homilies, queen Elizabeth had assisted, first the Scots, afterwards the French, and towards the end of her days, afforded her protection to the States of Holland, who not only resisted, but like the Maccabees of old, shook off the Spanish yoke, and erected a new form of government : that, in this, she was justified by the best writers of the age, and assisted by her parliaments and convocations, who gave her subsidies for that purpose : that the same principles prevailed during the whole reign of king James : that in the beginning of king Charles's reign, he assisted the Rochellers in their rebellion ; asked and obtained supplies from the parliament to enable him to support them more effectually ; and even ordered a fast to be held for their success : that, soon after, indeed, new notions of the divine right of kings were invented ; these, at their first rise, were condemned by a sentence of the lords ; and Mainwaring, who first broached them, incurred a severe censure from the parliament, even though he submitted, and retracted his opinion : that, during the long discontinuance of parliaments that followed, this became the prevail-

ing doctrine, and encouraged the government to venture on many actions, which gave occasion to the ensuing civil convulsions: that, after the restoration, the same maxim was revived; engaged king Charles in many disputes with his parliaments; was one chief cause of the unhappy catastrophe of king James; and yet its warmest asserters were the first who pleaded for resistance, when they thought themselves oppressed. The same arguments were enforced by the duke of Devonshire, the lord chancellor, the lords Somers, Hallifax, and Mohun.

The archbishop of York, the duke of Buckingham, the earl of Nottingham, and other leaders of the Tory interest, declared, that they never read such a piece of madness and nonsense as Sacheverel's sermon; but they did not think him guilty of a misdemeanor. Next day Dr. Wake, bishop of Lincoln, accused Sacheverel of having made a strange and false representation of the design for a comprehension, which had been set on foot by archbishop Sancroft, promoted by most eminent divines of the church of England, and again revived and encouraged by king William and queen Mary, though it unhappily miscarried; adding, that some steps ought to be taken for  
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putting a stop to such preaching, as, if not corrected in time, might kindle heats and animosities, that would endanger both church and state.

Doctor Trimnel, bishop of Norwich, observed, that Sacheverel had been guilty of most unpardonable insolence, in arraigning archbishop Grindal, one of the most eminent reformers, as a perfidious prelate, for having favoured the discipline of Geneva: that his arrogance was no less apparent, in presuming to prescribe rules to to his superiors, by telling them, when they ought "to thunder out their anathemas "against schismatics:" that the proper use of these spiritual weapons was to suppress vice, immorality and profaneness among the members of the church; but that they could never be employed with advantage for the conviction of heretics or schismatics, who were rather to be won by gentle treatment and christian forbearance: that he himself had been an eye-witness of the good effects of the toleration, and had been instrumental in reconciling several dissenters to the church: that, notwithstanding the many striking circumstances, which tempted one to form such an opinion, he would not take upon him to charge the doctor, or any of his particular friends, with the popular tumults

## 136 *The History of* ENGLAND.

that had lately been excited; but he could not help remarking on the inflammatory prayers, which he had published on this occasion, representing himself as under persecution, while he was prosecuted for offending against the law, by those, who, in common justice, ought to be thought the fairest accusers, and before their lordships, who were justly allowed to be the most impartial judges: that, however, he would never believe, until he was forced by necessity, that any member of the church of England, who had acknowledged the government, much less any clergyman, who had so often professed his obedience in church and state, had been any way accessory to those threatenings, which had been thrown out, particularly against such bishops, as should happen to condemn the doctor: that, for his own part, from what he had seen of this cause, he was likely to be one of those bishops; and, though he did not pretend to any great share of courage, he frankly owned, that, he was by no means so apprehensive of what might befall himself, for condemning the doctor, as of what would probably befall the state, should he escape unpunished: that, nevertheless, he wished he might be treated with all possible moderation; and that those

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“wholesome severities” which he recommended in his sermon, might not be used against his own person.

No person offering to speak in the doctor’s defence, it was voted that the commons had made good the articles of the charge exhibited against him; and he was found guilty by a majority of seventeen voices, though five and thirty peers protested against this decision. He was prohibited from preaching for the space of three years; and his two sermons were ordered to be burned by the hands of the common hangman, in presence of the lord-mayor and the two sheriffs of London.

The lords likewise ordered, that the executioner should commit to the same flames the famous decree of the university of Oxford, as containing positions contrary to the constitution of the kingdom, and destructive of the Protestant succession. A like sentence was passed upon a book, intitled, “A collection of passages referred to by Dr. Sacheverel, in his answer to the articles of impeachments.” These he had selected from impious books, lately published, and they were read by his council as proofs that the church was in danger.

In all probability, a more severe punishment would have been inflicted upon Sache-

verel, had not the lords been afraid of exciting some popular commotion. The Tories therefore considered this circumstance as a victory obtained over the Whig party, and they celebrated their triumph with bonfires, illuminations, and other marks of joy. On the fifth day of April the queen came to the house of peers, where, after having thanked the parliament for the large supplies they had granted, and expressed her concern for the necessary occasion, which had consumed so much of their time, she prorogued them to the eighteenth day of the same month.

Though the French king had failed in his design of sowing jealousies and divisions among the allies during the last negotiation, he still resolved to renew the same scheme; for that this was the only intention in the conferences that succeeded, is but too evident from the whole of his conduct. His ministers still maintained a correspondence with Petkum, and by means of that gentleman, he entreated the States-general that the negotiation might be resumed. In order, the more easily, to obtain their consent, he dispatched a new plan of pacification, in which he promised to renounce his grandson, and to comply with all their other demands, provided the electors of Cologne  
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Bavaria should be restored to their estates and dignities.

These proposals being rejected, another plan was offered, and communicated to the ministers of the emperor and the queen of Great-Britain. Then Petkum wrote a letter to the marquis de Torcy, importing, that the allies required his most christian majesty should declare, in plain and express terms, that he consented to all the preliminaries, except the thirty-seventh, which stipulated a cessation of arms, in case the Spanish monarchy should be delivered up to king Charles in the space of two months. He said, the allies would send passports to the French ministers to come and treat of an equivalent for this article. Lewis pretended to agree even to this condition, and appointed the mareschal D'Uxelles and the Abbé Polignac his plenipotentiaries.

The States, conscious of the pernicious designs of the French ministers, would not allow them to enter Holland, but sent their deputies, Buys and Vanderdussen, to meet them at Gertruydenburg. Mean while, they desired the queen of England to permit the duke of Marlborough to come over and assist in the ensuing conferences. The two houses of parliament seconded their request in a joint address to her majesty, who  
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replied, that she had already given directions for his departure, and that she was glad to find they concurred with her in a just sense of the duke's eminent services.

From this incident the queen might have learned the great interest of the duke as well in England as in Holland, and, of consequence, the absolute necessity of retaining him in her service: but, notwithstanding these circumstances, of which she could not fail to be fully persuaded, she continued more and more to withdraw her confidence from that nobleman, and resolved to effect a total change in her ministry.

The plenipotentiaries being met at Gertruyenberg, the Dutch ministers insisted, that Lewis should agree to the entire cession of Spain and the Indies to the house of Austria, and submit to every other article of the preliminaries. Lewis proposed, that some small provision should be made for the duke of Anjou, which might induce him to part with Spain the more easily. He mentioned the kingdom of Arragon; and this proposal being rejected by the allies, he demanded Naples and Sicily. The allies observing that Naples was already in possession of the house of Austria, he confined himself to the kingdoms of Sicily and Sardinia. He offered to deliver up four cautionary towns

towns in Flanders, as a security for Philip's evacuating Spain ; and he offered to furnish the confederates with a monthly sum of money, to defray the expence of expelling that prince from his dominions, in case he refused to resign them voluntarily.

The allies replied, that the restoration of Spain to the house of Austria was the grand object, for which the war was undertaken ; that as Lewis had placed his grandson on the throne of that kingdom, it was certainly in his power to make him resign it ; and that, without this condition, no treaty could be concluded. The substance of the conferences was communicated to lord Townsend, and count Zinzendorf, the Imperial plenipotentiary ; who were both of opinion, that the French king had no other design than to amuse and deceive the allies.

The negociation lasted from the nineteenth day of March to the twenty-fifth day of July, during which time the conferences were frequently interrupted, and a great many dispatches sent to and from Versailles. At length, the French plenipotentiaries returned to Paris, after having wrote a letter to the pensionary, importing, that the demands of the allies could not be granted.

Lewis was probably induced to take this step from the hopes he had conceived of seeing



ing a change in the English ministry, and of being thereby enabled to obtain more favourable terms.

The States-General resolved, that the enemy had departed from the foundation on which the negociation had begun, and had studied pretences to evade the execution of the capital points, the restitution of Spain and the Indies ; and, in a word, that France had no other view than to sow jealousies and dissensions among the allies. Lord Townsend, in a memorial, informed them, that the queen entirely approved their resolution, and all the steps they had taken in the course of the negociation ; and that she was fully determined to prosecute the war with all possible vigour, until the enemy should be compelled to accept such terms of peace, as might secure the tranquillity of the christian world.

The conferences did not retard the operations of the campaign. On the fifteenth day of April, prince Eugene and the duke of Marlborough set out from the Hague for Tournay, in order to assemble the forces, which were quartered on the Maese, in Flanders, and in Brabant. On the twentieth, they suddenly advanced to Pont-a-Vendin, in order to attack the lines, which the French had been forming all the winter, hoping, by these,

these, to cover Doway, and other frontier towns, which were most exposed to the confederate arms. The troops left for the defence of the lines, retired at the first sight of the allies, who, having thrown bridges over the Scarpe, the duke of Marlborough, with his division, passed the river and encamped at Vitri. Prince Eugene remained on the other side, and laid siege to Doway, the enemy retreating towards Cambray.

Mareschal Villars still commanded the French forces, which were extremely numerous, and tolerably well provided, considering the wretched situation of that kingdom. Indeed the number was increased by this circumstance, for many fled into the army, as the only means of saving themselves from the dreadful prospect of dying of hunger. The mareschal, having assembled all his forces, crossed the Schelde, and encamped at Bouchain, declaring he would give battle to the confederates. The duke of Marlborough altered the disposition of his troops, and took proper precautions for receiving the enemy.

Villars advanced in order of battle; but, upon perceiving the situation of the allies, he marched back to the heights of St. Laurence, where he fixed his camp. His intention was, by continual alarms, to interrupt the  
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the siege of Doway, which was resolutely defended by a numerous garrison, under monsieur Albergotti, who made a number of desperate sallies, in which the besiegers lost a great many men. They were likewise repulsed in several assaults; but still proceeded with indefatigable perseverance, until the garrison, being reduced to the last extremity, were obliged to surrender, on the twenty-sixth day of June.

The generals, finding the enemy so strongly entrenched between Arras and Miramont, that they could not be attacked without great danger, resolved to besiege Bethune, which was invested on the fifteenth day of July, and surrendered on the twenty-ninth of August. Villars quitted his intrenchments with a design to raise the siege; but, upon viewing the situation of the allies, he thought proper to alter his resolution, and returned once more to his camp. Soon after, the confederates reduced the towns of Aire and St. Vincent; and then the armies on both sides were put into winter-quarters.

The campaign on the Rhine was entirely inactive; nor was any thing of moment transacted in Piedmont. The duke of Savoy being indisposed and out of humour, the command of the forces still remained vested in count Thaur, who attempted to cross the Alps

Alps, and force his way into Dauphiné; but the duke of Berwick had thrown up intrenchments in the mountains, and taken such precautions to defend them, as defeated the designs of the Imperial general.

Greater achievements were performed in Spain, where both parties were conquerors and conquered by turns. General Stanhope, at the head of the horse and dragoons, attacked the whole cavalry of the enemy at Almennara: Stanhope charged in person, and with his own hand slew general Amessaga, who commanded the guards of Philip. The Spanish horse were entirely defeated, together with nine battalions of foot that escaped by favour of the darkness; and the main body of the army retreated with the utmost precipitation to Lerida. General Staremberg pursued them to Saragossa, where he found them drawn up in order of battle; and an engagement ensuing, on the ninth day of August, the enemy received a total defeat. Five thousand of their men were killed, seven thousand taken, together with all their artillery, and a great number of colours and standards. King Charles entered Saragossa in triumph, while Philip, with the remains of his army, retired towards Madrid. Having sent his queen and son to Victoria, he repaired to Valladolid, in order to assemble

# 144 *The History of ENGLAND.*

the siege of Doway, which was resolutely defended by a numerous garrison, under monsieur Albergotti, who made a number of desperate sallies, in which the besiegers lost a great many men. They were likewise repulsed in several assaults; but still proceeded with indefatigable perseverance, until the garrison, being reduced to the last extremity, were obliged to surrender, on the twenty-sixth day of June.

The generals, finding the enemy so strongly entrenched between Arras and Miramont, that they could not be attacked without great danger, resolved to besiege Bethune, which was invested on the fifteenth day of July, and surrendered on the twenty-ninth of August. Villars quitted his intrenchments with a design to raise the siege; but, upon viewing the situation of the allies, he thought proper to alter his resolution, and returned once more to his camp. Soon after, the confederates reduced the towns of Aire and St. Vincent; and then the armies on both sides were put into winter-quarters.

The campaign on the Rhine was entirely inactive; nor was any thing of moment transacted in Piedmont. The duke of Savoy being indisposed and out of humour, the command of the forces still remained vested in count Thaur, who attempted to cross the

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Alps, and force his way into Dauphiné; but the duke of Berwick had thrown up intrenchments in the mountains, and taken such precautions to defend them, as defeated the designs of the Imperial general.

Greater achievements were performed in Spain, where both parties were conquerors and conquered by turns. General Stanhope, at the head of the horse and dragoons, attacked the whole cavalry of the enemy at Almennara; Stanhope charged in person, and with his own hand slew general Amessaga, who commanded the guards of Philip. The Spanish horse were entirely defeated, together with nine battalions of foot that escaped by favour of the darkness; and the main body of the army retreated with the utmost precipitation to Lerida. General Staremberg pursued them to Saragossa, where he found them drawn up in order of battle; and an engagement ensuing, on the ninth day of August, the enemy received a total defeat. Five thousand of their men were killed, seven thousand taken, together with all their artillery, and a great number of colours and standards. King Charles entered Saragossa in triumph, while Philip, with the remains of his army, retired towards Madrid. Having sent his queen and son to Victoria, he repaired to Valladolid, in order to assemble

his scattered troops, so as to compose another army.

The good fortune of Charles was of short continuance. Stanhope proposed, that a body of troops should be posted at Pampe-luna, the only pass by which the French king could send forces to Spain. But this prudent measure was neglected, and king Charles proceeded to Madrid, which was abandoned by all the grandees ; and he had the mortification to find, that all the Castilians were attached to his competitor.

While his forces lay encamped in the neighbourhood of Toledo, the king of France, at the request of Philip, sent the duke of Vendome to take the command of the Spanish army, which was, at the same time, reinforced by detachments of French troops. Vendome was a general of great reputation, and many volunteers flocked to his standard. The Castilians, too, exerted themselves with great industry, in order to support their sovereign : so that, in less than three months after his defeat at Saragossa, Philip was in a condition to go in quest of his rival.

Charles, on the other hand, was entirely neglected, by those whose interest it was to support him. The court of England was so much engaged in party disputes, that it had not leisure to attend to foreign transactions.

tions. The emperor was so apprehensive of a war between the Grand Signior and the Czar, that he was afraid to diminish his army in Hungary.

In the beginning of November, Charles marched back to Saragossa, and cantoned his troops in the neighbourhood of Cifuentes, where Staremborg fixed his head-quarters. General Stanhope was quartered in the little town of Brihuega, where he found himself suddenly surrounded by the whole Spanish army. He immediately sent an account of his situation to Staremborg, and that general was no sooner apprized of his danger, than he assembled the troops, and set out to his relief. But, before his arrival, Stanhope, being attacked by the enemy, was obliged to surrender himself and all his forces prisoners of war, to the amount of two thousand men, including three lieutenant-generals, one major-general, one brigadier, and all the colonels and officers of the respective regiments.

Staremborg being ignorant of this additional misfortune, continued to advance towards Brihuega; but the roads were so bad, that night overtook him before he reached the heights in the neighbourhood of that place. The troops lay on their arms near Villa-viciosa, on the twenty-ninth they

148 *The History of* ENGLAND.

were attacked by the enemy, who doubled their number. Staremburg's left wing was entirely routed, all the infantry that composed it being either killed or taken : but the victors, instead of pursuing the blow, began to plunder the baggage ; and Staremburg with his right wing fought their left with the most obstinate valour till night. Then the enemy retired in disorder, leaving him master of the field of battle and of all their artillery. Six thousand of them fell upon the spot ; but the allies had suffered so severely, that the general could not maintain his ground. He therefore caused the cannon to be nailed up, and returned to Saragossa, from whence he marched into Catalonia. Thither he was followed by Vendome, who reduced Balaguer, in which he had left a garrison, and obliged him to take refuge under the walls of Barcelona. About this time the duke de Noailles laid siege to Gironne, which he took, notwithstanding the severity of the season : so that king Charles was now confined to the single province of Catalonia, and even that lay open to the incursions of the enemy.

Nothing of importance happened on the side of Portugal, from whence the earl of Galway returned to England by the queen's permission. After the battle of Pultowa the

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czar of Muscovy subdued all Livonia; but, through the mediation of the allies, he and king Augustus agreed to a neutrality for Pomerania. The king of Sweden still remained at Bender, and the grand signior espoused his cause so warmly, as to declare war against his Czarish majesty. Hostilities were carried on between the Swedish and Danish fleets with various success. The malecontents in Hungaria received repeated overthrows in the course of this summer; but they were tempted to persevere in their revolt by the rupture between the Ottoman Porte and Russia. They flattered themselves with the hopes of assistance from the Turks; and they expected engineers and money from the French.

In England the Tories began to execute the scheme they had formed for effecting the ruin of the Whig ministry. By the intrigues of Harley and Mrs. Masham they had entirely secured the confidence of their sovereign; by the trial of Dr. Sacheverel they had possessed themselves of the favour of the populace. From all parts of the kingdom they procured addresses to the queen, asserting, in the strongest terms, her hereditary right, and condemning all resistance as a rebellious doctrine, founded upon antimonarchical and republican principles.



The queen began to express her partiality to this party by mortifying the duke of Marlborough. Upon the death of the earl of Essex, she wrote to the general, desiring that the regiment commanded by that nobleman should be bestowed upon Mr. Hill, brother to Mrs. Masham. The duke represented to her majesty in person, the prejudice that would accrue to the service from the promotion of such a young officer over the heads of so many brave men, who had given repeated proofs of their courage and capacity. He added, that he could not help considering this extraordinary mark of regard to the brother of Mrs. Masham, as a declaration against himself and his family, who had so much reason to complain of that lady's malice and ingratitude.

To this remonstrance the queen made no other answer, but that he would do well to advise with his friends. The earl of Godolphin enforced the duke's arguments, tho' without effect; and his grace retired in disgust to Windsor. The queen appeared at council without taking the least notice of his absence. The whole ministry were confounded at this alteration in her sentiments. Several noblemen ventured to speak to her on the subject, and explained the ill consequences of disobliging a man who had performed

formed such eminent services to the nation: She pretended, that his services were still fresh on her memory; and that she retained all her former kindness for his person.

Hearing, however, that her conduct was disapproved by the public, and that the house of commons intended to pass some votes that would be disagreeable to her and her new counsellors, she ordered the earl of Godolphin to write to the duke, to dispose of the regiment as he should think proper, and return to town immediately. But before he received this intimation, he had sent a letter to the queen, complaining of the intrigues that were formed against him, lamenting the loss of her majesty's confidence, and desiring, as the last favour, that she would permit him to retire from business. The queen wrote him an answer, importing, that his suspicions were intirely groundless, and insisted upon his coming to council.

It appeared, however, in the sequel, that his apprehensions were but too well founded, and that her majesty's affections were alienated, not only from him, but likewise from the whole Whig party. As a proof of this, the office of lord-chamberlain was transferred from the duke of Kent to the duke of Shrewsbury, who had lately sided with the Tories, and maintained an intimate correspondence

152 *The History of* ENGLAND.

spondence with Mr. Harley. Even the earl of Sunderland, though son-in-law to the duke of Marlborough, was deprived of the post of secretary of state, in which he was succeeded by the lord Dartmouth.

The Tories exulted in the victory they had gained. They extolled the queen for thus bravely asserting, as they expressed it, her just prerogative, and setting herself free from an arbitrary cabal, by which she had been so long held in dependence. The duke of Beaufort went to court upon this occasion, and told her majesty, he was extremely glad he could now salute her queen in reality. The whole Whig party were justly alarmed. The best part of their substance was lodged in the Exchequer, and other public funds; and they plainly perceived, that the credit of the nation would be considerably affected by these alterations. The directors of the bank waited on her majesty, and represented this circumstance in the most earnest manner. The emperor, and the States-General interposed their good offices. Their ministers at London presented memorials, explaining the prejudice that would redound to the common cause, from an alteration in the British ministry. The queen assured them, that, whatever changes might  
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be made, the duke of Marlborough should still be continued in his employments.

On the eighth day of August the earl of Godolphin was deprived of his office, and the treasury put in commission, subjected to the direction of Mr. Harley, appointed chancellor of the Exchequer and under-treasurer. The earl of Rochester was made president of the council, in room of lord Somers: the staff of lord steward being taken from the duke of Devonshire, was given to the duke of Buckingham: and Mr. Boyle being divested of the office of secretary of state, it was conferred upon Henry St. John. The lord chancellor having resigned the great seal, it was first put in commission, and afterwards given to Simon Harcourt. The earl of Wharton surrendered his commission of lord lieutenant of Ireland, which the queen bestowed upon the duke of Ormond. The earl of Orford retired from the board of admiralty: Mr. George Granville was appointed secretary of war in the room of Mr. Walpole: the command of the forces in Portugal was conferred on the earl of Portmore: and the duke of Hamilton was declared lord lieutenant of the county Palatine of Lancaster. In a word, there was not one Whig left in any office of state, except the duke of Marlborough and even

154 *The History of ENGLAND.*

even he would have resigned his command, had he not been persuaded by his particular friends, to refrain taking a step, which must have proved prejudicial to the interest of his country. In order to complete the triumph of the Tories, the queen dissolved the Whig parliament, and issued writs for calling a new one.

So sudden and entire a change in the ministry is not to be found in the English history; especially at a time, when men of distinguished abilities and unquestionable integrity had performed such eminent services to their country, and conducted the administration to the entire satisfaction of the nation. The next step was to transfer the lieutenancy of London into the hands of the Tories, and this point was effectually secured by the interest of the court, though they could not prevent Sir Gilbert Heathcote, a staunch Whig, from being chosen lord-mayor.

The attention of the public was now engrossed by the new elections, which were generally carried in favour of the Tories; chiefly by means of the popular frenzy, raised by the trial of Sacheverel, who was used as an instrument to turn and wind the passions of the vulgar. This incendiary, having been presented to a living in North-  
Wales,



Wales, went in procession to that country, with all the pomp and splendour of a sovereign pontiff. He was magnificently entertained by the university of Oxford and several nobleman, who adored him as the champion of the church, which he had saved from impending ruin. He was received in several towns by the magistrates in their formalities, and often attended by a body of two thousand horse.

At Bridgenorth he was met by Mr. Creswel, a professed Jacobite, and a candidate for the ensuing parliament, at the head of five thousand horse and three thousand foot, wearing white knots edged with gold, and three leaves of gilt laurel in their hats. The hedges were for two miles dressed with garlands and flowers, and lined with people; and the steeples covered with streamers, flags, and colours to a considerable value. Nothing was heard but the cry of "The church and Dr. Sacheverel." The clergy were transported with a spirit of enthusiasm; and, by their sermons and declamations, raised such a ferment among the people, that few were returned for the new parliament, but such as distinguished themselves by their zeal against the Whig administration.

Now the Tories had the pleasure, for which they had so long laboured, to see all the offices

sices of state, the lieutenancy of London, the management of corporations, and the direction of both houses of parliament in their own hands. When these assembled, on the twenty-fifth day of November, Mr. Bromley was chosen speaker, without opposition.

The queen, in her speech to both houses, said, that, by calling this parliament, she had given an evident proof of the confidence she placed in the duty and affection of her subjects; and that she met them with the greater satisfaction, as she was fully convinced, they would act in such a manner, as to give new life and spirit to her friends, and disappoint the hopes of her enemies: that, for this purpose, she recommended to them the vigorous prosecution of the war, particularly in Spain, as the most likely means of procuring a safe and honourable peace: that she hoped they would provide the necessary supplies for the service of the ensuing year; the rather, as large debts, especially in the article of the navy, were already contracted: that she was firmly resolved to support the church of England, as by law established; to preserve the British constitution, according to the union; and to maintain the indulgence by law allowed to scrupulous consciences: and, that as these blessings might be transmitted safe to posterity,  
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she should employ none but such as were firmly attached to the Protestant succession in the house of Hanover, the interest of which family no person could have more truly at heart than herself: that such was her resolutions; and their concurrence with her in the steady pursuit of these great and important ends, would best manifest their zeal for preserving the religion and liberties of the nation, the welfare of the kingdom, and the honour of the crown.

In this speech, which was supposed to be the production of Mr. Harley, there was one expression, very different from what had commonly been used on the like occasions, and was not so well relished by the public. Instead of promising to support the toleration, the usual phrase, the queen said, in the language of Sacheverel, that she would maintain the "indulgence" by law allowed to scrupulous consciences. This was considered as a tacit approbation of the conduct of that incendiary, and of all the effects with which it had been attended.

The lords presented an address, importing, that they would concur in all reasonable measures towards procuring an honourable peace. The address of the commons discovered the spirit by which they were actuated. They exhorted her majesty to dis-

## 158 *The History of* ENGLAND.

countenance all such principles and measures as had lately threatened her royal crown and dignity ; measures, they said, which, whenever they might prevail, would prove fatal to the whole constitution both in church and state.

In the house of peers, the earl of Scarborough having moved, that the thanks of the house should be given to the duke of Marlborough, the duke of Argyle started some objections ; and the general's friends, apprehending that the question might be carried against them, postponed the consideration of the proposal till the duke should return to England. The earl of Peterborough was appointed ambassador-extraordinary to the Imperial court ; the earl of Rivers was sent in the same quality to Hanover ; and Mr. Richard Hill nominated envoy-extraordinary to the United Provinces, as well as to the council of State appointed for the government of the Spanish Netherlands, in the room of lieutenant-general Cadogan, who was recalled. Lieutenant-general Meredith, major-general Maccartney, and brigadier Honeywood were deprived of their commissions, because in their cups they had drank confusion to the enemies of the duke of Marlborough.

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This nobleman arrived in England on the twenty-eighth day of December. As he was apprized of the late revolution, he thought it prudent, in the present conjuncture, to avoid the least show of popularity. Accordingly, instead of driving, as usual, to St. James's, he went quietly to Montague-house, from whence, after having rested a few hours, he slipped out at a private door, and repaired to court. He conferred for a short time with the queen, who told him, that he must not expect the thanks of the parliament as formerly ; but that she hoped he would live well with her ministers. The duke, with a moderation truly admirable, expressed no resentment at the alterations which had been made : but, from a sincere regard to the interest of his country, resolved to retain the command of the army ; and, as a proof of his submission, assisted next morning at a committee of the privy-council. Nevertheless, as the queen's affection was entirely alienated from the dutchess, he carried to her a surrender of all his wife's places, which were those of groom of the stole, mistress of the robes, and keeper of the privy-purse. The two first were bestowed upon the dutchess of Somerset ; the last upon the new favourite Mrs. Masham.



160 *The History of ENGLAND.*

On the third day of January,\* the queen sent a message to both houses, importing, that there had been an action in Spain to the disadvantage of king Charles: that the damage having chiefly fallen on the English forces, she had given directions for sending and procuring troops to repair the loss: and that she hoped the parliament would approve of her conduct.

The lords, in their answer to this message, declared, that as the misfortune in Spain might have been occasioned by some preceding mismanagement, they would use their utmost endeavours to discover it, so as to prevent the like for the future. They accordingly began an inquiry into the affairs of Spain; and the earl of Peterborough, being examined before the committee, alledged, that all the miscarriages in the course of that war had been owing to the earl of Galway, lord Tyrawley, and general Stanhope,

The lords immediately resolved, that the earl of Peterborough had given a faithful and honourable account of the councils of war in Valencia: that the earl of Galway, lord Tyrawley, and general Stanhope, in advising an offensive war, had been the unhappy occasion of the battle of Almanza, the  
source

source of our misfortunes in Spain, and one great cause of the disappointment of the expedition to Toulon, concerted between the duke of Savoy, and her majesty. They further voted, that the prosecution of an offensive war in Spain, was approved and directed by the ministers, who were therefore justly blameable, as having contributed to our misfortunes in that kingdom, and to the disappointment of the expedition against Toulon: that the earl of Peterborough, during his command in Spain, had performed many great and eminent services; and if his opinion had been followed, it would have prevented the misfortunes that succeeded. It was likewise moved, by the duke of Buckingham, that the thanks of the house should be returned to the earl for his remarkable and eminent services; and they were actually presented to him by the mouth of the lord-keeper Harcourt, who could not help taking this opportunity to reflect obliquely on the great rewards, which had been given to the duke of Marlborough.

The lords, proceeding in the enquiry, passed another vote, importing, that the late ministry had been negligent in managing the Spanish war, to the great prejudice of the nation. Finding that the Portuguese troops were posted on the right of the English,

fin, in the battle of Almanza, they resolved, that the earl of Galway, in yielding this point, had acted contrary to the honour of the imperial crown of Great-Britain. In every one of these articles, with which he lords pretended to find fault, a full and satisfactory defence was offered by those who were censured; but no regard was paid to this circumstance. The duke of Buckingham even acknowledged, that it was altogether superfluous to inquire into facts: it was only necessary to pass the votes: the ministry were secure of a majority; and they were determined to avail themselves of this advantage.

That the commons, who were chiefly Tories, should be inclined to condemn the Whig-ministry, is not at all surprizing; but that the lords, who had approved the conduct of these ministers, should be disposed to adopt the same sentiments, is not a little unaccountable. The lords have frequently stood in the gap, and opposed the united efforts of both court and commons, when these have been desirous to embrace resolutions prejudicial to the public; but, at present, they seem to have departed from their former maxims, and to have been carried along by the general torrent. It must be observed, however, to their honour, that these

votes

votes were carried by a very small majority ; and even that was procured by means of places and pensions distributed among those, who, from the narrowness of their fortunes, or their want of œconomy, were exposed to such temptations.

The lords concurred so entirely with the commons, that the latter had no occasion to enquire into the affairs of Spain. They therefore proceeded to point out, or rather to pretend to point out, other articles of mal-administration. They examined into the management of the navy ; and passed some censures upon certain persons concerned in contracts for victualling the seamen. They procured a petition from the inhabitants of St. Olave's, and other parishes, complaining, that a great number of Palatines inhabiting one house, might produce among them a contagious distemper ; and, in time, become a charge to the public, as being destitute of all visible means of subsistence.

This furnished them with another pretext for condemning the conduct of the late ministry. They appointed a committee to inquire, upon what invitation or encouragement these Palatines had come into England ? what money had been expended in bringing them over, and, in maintaining them here ? and by whom that money was advanced ?

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The papers relating to this affair being laid before them, by the queen's order, and perused, the house resolved, that the inviting and bringing over the poor Palatines of all religions, at the public expence, was an extravagant and unreasonable charge to the kingdom, and a scandalous misapplication of the public money, tending to the increase and oppression of the poor, and of dangerous consequence to the constitution in church and state : and that, whoever advised the bringing them over, was an enemy to the queen and kingdom.

Transported by the heat of this enquiry, they passed a bill to repeal the act for a general naturalization of all protestants, but this was rejected by the lords, at the first reading. Another bill was enacted into a law, ordaining, that no person should be capable of representing a county in parliament, unless he possessed an estate of six hundred pounds a year ; and that every burgess should have an annual income of half that sum. The design of this bill was to exclude trading people from the house of commons, and to lodge the legislative power with the landed-gentlemen. A third act passed, permitting the importation of French wine, though in neutral bottoms only ; a restriction, which served, in some measure, to de-



feat the intention of the bill ; for Lewis had published an ordinance forbidding his wine to be exported in any vessels but his own. This transaction, however, was universally condemned as a national evil, and a shameful compliment to the enemy.

A violent party in the lower house began to consider Harley as a lukewarm Tory, because he would not precipitately engage in all their furious measures ; they even began to suspect his interest, when his credit was confirmed by a very uncommon incident. Guiscard, the French partizan, who had planned the project of invading Provence, thought himself but poorly rewarded with a precarious pension of four hundred pounds, which he enjoyed from the queen's bounty. He had been abandoned by St. John, the former companion of his pleasures : he had in vain endeavoured to obtain an audience of the queen, in order to solicit a more considerable allowance. Harley was his enemy, and all access to her majesty was denied him.

Provoked at these disappointments, he resolved to make his peace with the court of France, and offered his services in a letter to one Moreau, a banker at Paris. His packet, which he attempted to transmit by the way of Portugal, was intercepted, and

166 *The History of ENGLAND.*

a warrant issued to apprehend him for high-treason. When he was seized in St. James's park, he discovered signs of guilty confusion and despair, and begged of the messenger to kill him directly.

Being conducted to the cockpit in a sort of frenzy, he observed a penknife lying on the table, and took it up without being perceived by the messengers. A committee of council was immediately summoned, and Guiscard brought before them to be examined. Finding his correspondence with Moreau was discovered, and despairing of being able to obtain a pardon, he resolved to make his ruin fatal to his enemies. He desired to speak in private with secretary St. John, whom, in all probability, he had determined to assassinate. This request being refused, he said, "That's hard! not one word!" St. John being out of his reach, he stepped up to Mr. Harley; and crying out, "Have at thee, then!" stabbed him in the breast with the penknife, which he had concealed.

The instrument broke upon the bone, without penetrating into the cavity: nevertheless he redoubled the blow with such violence, that Harley immediately fell to the ground. St. John seeing him fall, exclaimed, "The villain has killed Mr. Harley,"  
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and drew his sword. His example was followed by the duke of Newcastle and others, who wounded Guiscard in several places. Some of the members secured themselves with chairs against the rage of the assassin, who seemed to threaten the whole assembly : others ran out to call for assistance. The servants and door-keepers rushed into the room and attacked the ruffian, who continued to defend himself with amazing obstinacy, till at last he was overpowered by Wilcox, one of the queen's messengers. His wounds, though dangerous, were not mortal ; but he died of a gangrene, occasioned by the bruises he had received in the struggle.

Though this attempt upon the life of Harley was merely the effect of private resentment, the Tories resolved to convert it into a proof of his political principles. Accordingly, the two houses of parliament, in an address to the queen, declared their belief, that Mr. Harley's fidelity to her majesty, and zeal for her service, had drawn upon him the hatred of all the abettors of popery and faction. They intreated her to take all possible care of her sacred person ; and, for that purpose, to give directions for causing all Papists to be removed from the cities of London and Westminster. In compliance

## 168 *The History of ENGLAND.*

pliance with this request, a proclamation was published, ordering the laws to be strictly put in execution against Papists. When Harley came first to the house of commons after his recovery, he was congratulated upon it by the speaker in a florid fulsome harangue, composed for the occasion.

At the same time, in order to prevent the like desperate designs for the future, an act was passed, ordaining, that, to make an attempt upon the life of a privy-counsellor should be felony without benefit of clergy. Harley being now rid, by the death of the earl of Rochester, of his only competitor in the royal favour, soon became sole minister, was created baron of Wigmore, and raised to the rank of earl by the ancient and noble titles of Oxford and Mortimer. To complete the measure of his greatness, he was appointed lord-treasurer, and intrusted with the supreme direction of public affairs.

So implacable was the rancour, which the Tories had conceived against the memory of king William, that no time seemed capable to extinguish or abate it. The commons impowered certain persons to examine all grants made by that king, and to report the value of them, as well as the considerations upon which they were made. Upon their  
report

report a bill was framed and passed that house ; but the lords rejected it at the first reading.

The next bolt of their malice was directed against the earl of Godolphin, the late treasurer. They began an inquiry into the public accounts, and voted, that above five and thirty millions of the money granted by parliament remained unaccounted for. It appeared, however, upon a closer scrutiny, that the money was regularly accounted for, though the accounts had not passed through the auditor's office.

The commons afterwards proceeded to enquire into the debts of the navy, which exceeded five millions, and which, with many other debts, were thrown into one stock, amounting to nine millions, four hundred and seventy thousand, three hundred twenty-one pounds. A fund was established for paying an interest or annuity of six per cent, until the principal should be discharged ; and for the raising of this, the duties upon wines, vinegar, tobacco, Indian goods, wrought silks, whale fins, were to be continued for ever, after the year 1716, till which time the parliament was to make an annual provision for the interest. With this fund was granted the monopoly of a projected trade to the South-sea, vested in the



proprietors of navy-bills, debentures, and other public securities, who were incorporated for this purpose. Such was the origin of the South-sea company, founded upon a chimerical supposition, that the English would be permitted to trade upon the coast of Mexico and Peru.

Had the nation continued to prosecute the war till king Charles had been established on the throne of Spain, such a liberty might, perhaps, have been obtained : but the new ministry well knew, that nothing was farther from their intention ; that they already entertained thoughts of putting an end to the war ; and of yielding the whole Spanish monarchy to the Bourbon family, which, they might be well assured, would never indulge them with such a privilege. Their endeavouring, therefore, to flatter the nation with the hopes of such an advantage, can only be considered as an imposition upon the public.

By this time the emperor Joseph had died of the small pox, without male issue ; so that king Charles's immediate aim was to succeed his brother on the Imperial throne. This event the queen communicated, in a message, to both houses, on the twentieth day of April. She told them, that she was firmly resolved to support the house of Austria ;

ria; that the States-General had concurred with her in this resolution; and that they had used their joint endeavours to secure the election of Charles, at the head of the empire.

As the commons of the present parliament, had chiefly owed their election to the influence of the clergy, they resolved to shew their gratitude for that favour. Accordingly, in consequence of an address from the house of convocation, and a quickening message from the queen, they passed a bill for building fifty new churches in the suburbs of London and Westminster, and allotted for this purpose the duty upon coals, which had been granted for the building of St. Paul's, now finished. This imposition was to be continued for three years longer, in which time, it was supposed, it would raise the sum of three hundred and fifty thousand pounds.

Though the commons, with all their enquiries, had not been able to fix any imputation on the character of the late ministry, and were probably, in their own minds, convinced of their integrity, they resolved to impress the public with a very different opinion. At the close of the session, they presented a most violent and invidious remonstrance to the queen, importing, that they had not only raised the necessary supplies,

172 *The History of* ENGLAND.

but also discharged the heavy debts, of which the nation had so long, and so justly complained; that, in tracing the causes of this debt, they had discovered fraud, embezzlement, and misapplication of the public money: that those, who of late years, had the management of the treasury, had been guilty of notorious breach of trust, and injustice to the nation, in allowing above thirty-five millions to remain unaccounted for; a purposed omission, that looked like a design to conceal embezzlements: that they hoped her majesty would give immediate directions for compelling the several imprest accountants speedily to pass their accounts: that, in the opinion of the house, such of the accountants as had neglected their duty in passing their accounts, ought no longer to be entrusted with the public money: that, from all these evil designs and worse practices of of some persons, who had, by false professions of love to their country, insinuated themselves into her royal favour, irreparable mischief would have accrued to the public, had not her majesty, in her great wisdom, seasonably discovered the fatal tendency of such measures, and, from her sincere regard to the welfare of her people, removed from the administration those, who had so ill answered her majesty's favourable opinion, and,

and, in so many instances, grossly abused the trust reposed in them : that her people could, with greater patience, have suffered the manifold injuries done to themselves, by the frauds and depredations of such evil ministers, had not the same men proceeded to treat her sacred person with undutifulness and disregard : but, as the interests of her majesty, and of her good subjects, were inseparably connected, the wrong which these men had done to the public, drew upon them her royal displeasure, and their irreverence towards her majesty, justly exposed them to the indignation of her people.

Such a bold and daring attack made by one private person on the character of another, where there was no proof to support the charge, would have been subject to the lash of the law, would have been considered as a libel, and justly condemned as such. But the commons, in parliament assembled, are, with respect to their resolutions, though not their actions, above the law, being one of the constituent parts of the legislative authority ; and a sense of shame, which has so much influence upon private persons, is found to have very little effect upon large bodies of people. The guilt being divided among so many, the share of every individual is reduced, in his own opi-

nion, almost to nothing; and however large the proportion of each, their number keeps them in countenance.

But though nothing could be more false and scandalous than this remonstrance, the nation in general had no means of discovering the falshood; and accordingly, when it was circulated through the kingdom, as it presently was with great industry, it produced the effect intended by the new counsellors: it enflamed the minds of the people against the late ministry. Such expedients were become necessary for the execution of the scheme, which the Tories had projected; to put an end to the war, and yield the whole Spanish monarchy to the Bourbon family. What were their motives in taking this extraordinary resolution will appear in the sequel.

On the twelfth day of June the queen came to the house of peers, and, after giving the royal assent to several public and private bills, made an affectionate speech to both houses. She thanked them in the warmest terms for having performed all the assurances they had given her at the beginning of the session; for having baffled the expectations of her enemies in finding supplies for the ensuing year; in having granted larger sums than were ever given to any prince in one session;



session; in having enabled her to build so many churches; and in having established funds for the payment of the public debts; so that the credit of the nation was restored. She added, that she was firmly resolved to maintain the succession of the house of Hanover, and to support and encourage the church of England as by law established. The speech being finished the parliament was prorogued to the tenth day of July.

The convocation having met at the same time with the parliament, the lower house chose Dr. Atterbury their prolocutor. He was an ecclesiastic of quick parts, extensive learning, strongly infected with Tory prejudices, and intimately connected with the prime minister Oxford; so that he directed all the proceedings in the lower house in concert with that minister. The queen, in a letter to the archbishop, expressed her hope, that the consultations of the clergy might be of use to repress the attempts of loose persons, and to prevent the propagation of prophane principles.

For this purpose, she sent them a licence under the broad-seal, empowering them to set and do business in as ample a manner as had ever been granted since the reformation. They were ordered to lay before the queen an account of the excessive growth of infidelity

lity and heresy ; and to devise some means for regulating the method of denouncing excommunications ; for making the institution of rural deans more effectual ; and for correcting abuses in licences for marriage.

The bishops were purposely neglected and slighted, and even some encroachments were made on their authority, because they had maintained a good correspondence with the late ministry. A committee being appointed to draw up a representation of the present state of the church and religion, Atterbury undertook the task, and composed a violent remonstrance, containing the most bitter and severe reflections upon the administration since the Revolution. This was rejected by the bishops, who framed another in more moderate terms ; and several regulations were made : but in none of these did the two houses agree.

They concurred, however, in censuring some tenets favouring Arianism, broached and defended by Mr. Whiston, mathematical professor at Cambridge. For these he had been expelled the university, and wrote a vindication of himself, promising a larger work on the same subject. The archbishop, being confined with the gout, sent a letter to the two houses, expressing his doubt, whether

ther they could, in the first instance, proceed against a man for heresy; and observing, that, if they were not warranted by law, they might involve themselves in a *Premunire*.

The judges were consulted; and the majority of them agreed, that the convocation had a jurisdiction. Four of them, however, were of a different opinion; and this they supported from the statutes made at the Reformation. The queen, without taking notice of this circumstance, wrote a letter to the bishops, implying, that, as there was no doubt of their jurisdiction, she expected they would proceed in the matter before them. Fresh scruples arising with regard to the formation of the court, and the dependance of the one archbishopric upon the other, they resolved to examine the book, without proceeding against the writer, and this was accordingly censured.

An extract of the censure was sent to the queen: but though frequently pressed on the subject, she never returned any answer, and the affair remained in suspense. Whiston, not intimidated by this procedure, published a work in four volumes, justifying his doctrine, and maintaining, that the apostolical constitutions, which favoured his notions, were not only canonical, but even preferable in point of authority to the epistles and the gospel.

The

178 *The History of* ENGLAND.

The duke of Marlborough being continued in the command of the army, set out for Holland on the eighteenth day of February, after the queen had assured him that the payment of the troops should be duly remitted. Having concerted with the deputies of the states, the operations of the campaign, he repaired to Flanders about the middle of April, and assembled the army at Orchies, between Lisle and Douay. Villars had already assembled the French forces, which were extremely numerous, and encamped behind the river Sanset, in such an advantageous post, that he could not be attacked without the most imminent danger.

The duke of Marlborough passed the Scarpe, and formed his camp between Douay and Bouchain, where he was joined by prince Eugene, on the twenty-third day of May. This general, however, did not long continue in the Netherlands. Hearing that detachments had been sent from the army of Villars, and the neighbouring garrisons, to the Rhine, and that the elector of Bavaria intended to penetrate into the empire, he, by order from the court of Vienna, marched with the Imperial and Palatine troops, towards the Upper Rhine, in order to defend Germany.

The

The duke of Marlborough repassed the Scarpe, and encamped in the plain of Lens; from whence he advanced towards Aire, as if he intended to besiege St. Omer, or attack the enemy's lines in that quarter. These lines began at Bouchain, on the Schelde, and were continued along the Sanset and the Scarpe, to Arras, and thence along the Upper Scarpe and Ugy to Canche. They were secured by redoubts and other works in such a manner, that Villars deemed them impenetrable, and called them, by way of defiance, the *Ne plus ultra* of Marlborough.

This nobleman advancing to Rebreuve and Villars-Brulin, within two leagues of the lines, caused a great number of fascines to be made, pretending he would attack them the next morning; so that the French general drew all his forces to that side, in full expectation of an engagement. The duke, imagining that the passage of the Sanset by Arleux, would be left unguarded, had ordered the generals Cadogan and Hompseck to assemble twenty-three battalions and seventeen squadrons, from the garrisons of Douay, Lisse, and St. Amand, and march to Arleux, where they should endeavour to pass the Sanset, promising to support them with a larger force.

Bri-



Brigadier Sutton was detached with the artillery and pontoons, to throw bridges over the canal near Gouzelen, and over the Scarpe at Vitry, while the duke, with the whole allied army, began his march for the same place about nine in the evening. He advanced with such expedition, that, by five in the morning, he crossed the river at Vitry. There he learned, that Hompfeck had taken possession of the passes on the Sanfet and Schelde without opposition, the enemy having recalled their detachments from that side, just as he had conjectured. He himself, with his vanguard of fifty squadrons, having passed the Scarpe, hastened his march towards Arleux, and, before eight of the clock, arrived at Baca-Bacheul, where, in two hours, he was joined by the heads of the columns into which he had divided his army.

Villars being informed of his intention about two in the morning, immediately decamped with his whole army, and, putting himself at the head of the king's household-troops, marched with such expedition, that about eleven in the forenoon, he arrived in sight of the duke of Marlborough, who had, by this time, passed through the defile of Marquion, and joined count Hompfeck. The French general immediately retreated

to the main body of his army, which had reached the high road between Arras and Cambray; while the confederates encamped upon the Schelde between Oisy and Estrum, after having performed a march of above ten leagues, without halting; an exploit scarcely to be paralleled in history.

By this project, so wisely formed, and so successfully executed, the duke fairly outwitted Villars, and, without the loss of a single man, entered the lines which he had pronounced impenetrable. This stroke of the English general, was extolled as a master piece of military skill, and excited the admiration of all Europe: while Villars was not only censured at Paris, but even ridiculed by his own officers.

The field-deputies of the States general proposed, that they should give battle to the enemy, who had passed the Crevecoeur, in order to cover Bouchain: but the duke disrelished the proposal. He thought the army was too much fatigued by the long march, for such an enterprize; whereas the enemy, who came by a shorter route, were more fresh and vigorous: and that any misfortune, while they remained within the French lines, might be attended with the most fatal consequences.

His intention was to reduce Bouchain, which was judged impracticable, inasmuch as it was situated in the middle of a morass, strongly fortified, supplied with store of provisions, defended by a numerous garrison, and in the neighbourhood of an army superior to that of the allies, who were likewise exposed to the excursions of the garrisons of Valenciennes and Condé. Notwithstanding these difficulties, and the dissuasions of his particular friends, he resolved to undertake the siege; and, accordingly, on the tenth day of August, the place was regularly invested.

Villars had taken every precaution that his skill and experience could suggest, to defeat the designs of the English general. He had encreased the garrison to six thousand chosen men, commanded by officers of approved courage and fidelity. He made several attempts to raise the siege; but they were rendered ineffectual by the superior prudence and capacity of Marlborough. Then he formed a scheme for surprising Douay, which likewise proved abortive.

If we consider, that the English general was obliged to cast up lines, erect forts, raise batteries, lay bridges over a river, form a causeway through a deep morass, provide for the security of convoys against a nume-

rons army on one side, and the garrisons of Condé and Valenciennes, on the other ; we must confess, that this was the boldest enterprise of the whole war ; and that it required all the courage, skill, and experience of a consummate general, and all the valour and intrepidity of the confederate troops, to carry it into execution. In twenty days after the trenches were opened, the garrison offered to capitulate, and could obtain no better terms than to surrender themselves prisoners of war.

The duke would next have proceeded to the reduction of Quesnoy, in order to secure that whole quarter ; but the deputies of the states refusing their consent, he was obliged to relinquish his intention. The conquest of Bouchain was the last military achievement performed by the duke of Marlborough : for the breaches of the place were no sooner repaired, and the fort put into a posture of defence, than the opposite armies began to separate, and the allied troops were quartered in the frontier towns, that they might be at hand to take the field early in the spring.

The news of these conquests being brought to England overwhelmed the ministry with shame and confusion. They had boldly

184 *The History of* ENGLAND.

prognosticated, that nothing would be done during this campaign; and began to insinuate that the duke could achieve no enterprize of importance without the assistance of prince Eugene. Finding themselves so miserably disappointed, they endeavoured to lessen the glory of his conquests; and even accused him of having removed his troops from a convenient camp to a place where they were in danger of perishing with hunger.

Not satisfied with these malicious suggestions, they employed a number of mercenary scribblers to vilify the conduct and revile the character of the duke; and these wretches, though they wanted the power, showed at least the inclination to gratify their masters. They compared the reduction of Bouchain to the taking of a dove-house, and the passage of the French lines to a militia company's crossing a kennel. In these libellers, worthy of their excellent employers, which is most to be admired, their veracity, their wit, or their patriotism? or rather, which is most to be detested, their falshood, their stupidity, or their hatred to their country?

But though the ministry of England, and a great part of the nation were blind to the merit of their accomplished general, the allies lay not under the same prejudices.

They



They saw, that they were now in possession of the Maeze, almost as far as the mouth of the Sambre ; of the Schelde from Tournay ; and of the Lys, as far as it is navigable. They knew that they had reduced Spanish Guelderland, Limburg, Brabant, Mechlin, Flanders, and the greatest part of Hainault. They observed, that they were masters of the Scarpe ; and that, by the conquest of Bouchain, they had opened to themselves a passage into the very bowels of France. And they frankly acknowledged, that all these acquisitions were, in a great measure, owing to the courage and conduct of the duke of Marlborough, whose character they adored, and whose memory they still revere. This nobleman, having finished the campaign, returned to the Hague on the twenty-seventh of October, and about the middle of November arrived in England.

The present ministry, while they were forcing themselves into the administration of the government, had always pretended, that the greatest efforts ought to be made in Spain, where alone the enemy could be annoyed to advantage ; and it now appeared, with what sincerity they had advanced that maxim. The queen had bestowed the command of the forces in Spain upon the duke

## 186 *The History of* ENGLAND.

of Argyle, who was recalled from Flanders for that purpose. He had long been at variance with the duke of Marlborough ; a circumstance which recommended him the more strongly to the court. He arrived at Barcelona about the latter end of May ; and found the British troops almost starving for want of subsistence.

The treasurer had promised to supply him liberally, the commons having granted a million and a half for the war in Spain. All their hopes of success were fixed on the campaign in that kingdom ; and indeed the army commanded by Vendome was in such a wretched condition, that had Staremberg been properly supported by the allies, he might have reduced king Philip to the last extremity. The duke of Argyle waited long for the promised remittances ; but found that the treasurer had forgot his promise : and had he not borrowed some money on his own credit, the British forces could not have taken the field.

At length Staremberg advanced towards the enemy, who attacked him at the pass of Prato del Rey, where they were repulsed with considerable loss. Soon after, the duke of Argyle was seized with a violent fever, and obliged to return to Barcelona, where he lay a long time, before he recovered.

ed. Vendome laid siege to the castle of Cardona, which was gallantly defended till the end of December, when a detachment being sent to the relief of the place, defeated the besiegers, killed two thousand on the spot, and made themselves masters of all their artillery, ammunition and baggage. Staremborg was unable to improve the advantage: the duke of Argyle sent repeated letters to the ministry, and loudly complained that he was totally neglected: but all his remonstrances proved ineffectual: no supplies were remitted; and he returned to England without having been able to undertake any enterprize of importance. Such were the efforts, which the Tories exerted in that quarter, where alone, they had affirmed, the war ought to be prosecuted with vigour.

In September, king Charles leaving his queen at Barcelona, set sail for Italy, and at Milan had a conference with the duke of Savoy, where all differences were accommodated. That prince had penetrated into Savoy, and advanced as far as the Rhine: but, for what reason was not known, he suddenly stopped in the middle of his career, and, after a short campaign, repassed the mountains. Prince Eugene, as was observed, had been recalled into the empire  
with

## 188 *The History of ENGLAND.*

with the German and Palatine forces; and he now protected the electors at Franckfort from the designs of the enemy. Charles was unanimously chosen emperor, the electors of Cologne and Bavaria having been excluded from voting, because they lay under the ban of the empire.

The war between the Turks and the Muscovites was soon brought to a period. The czar advanced so far into Moldavia, that he was cut off from all possibility of a retreat, and altogether in the power of the enemy. In this dilemma, he found means to engage the grand vizier in his interest, and proposed such terms of peace as were readily accepted. The king of Sweden, who was in the Turkish army, accused the vizier of corruption, and that minister was actually disgraced. The Grand Signior threatened to renew the war: but he was appeased by the Czar's surrendering Azoph.

The next trial which the Tories made of their political abilities, was an expedition against Quebec and Placentia, in North-America, projected by colonel Nicholson, who had taken possession of Nova Scotia, and garrisoned Port-Royal, to which he gave the name of Annapolis. In the course of the preceding year, he had brought over four Indian chiefs, who represented the advantages that would accrue to England by ex-

expelling the French from North-America. The proposal was approved by the ministry. A body of five thousand men were embarked in transports, under the command of brigadier Hill, brother to the new favourite Mrs. Masham; and they sailed from Plymouth on the fourth day of May, with a strong squadron of ships, commanded by Sir Hovenden Walker.

At Boston in New-England they were joined by two regiments of Provincials; and about four thousand men, composed of American planters, Palatines, and Indians, and rendezvoused at Albany, in order to march by land into Canada, while the fleet with the English troops should sail up the river of that name. On the twenty-first day of August they were attacked by a violent storm, and driven among the rocks, where eight transports were lost with about eight hundred men. The admiral immediately sailed back to Spanish-River bay, where it was resolved, in a council of war, that, as the fleet and forces were victualled for ten weeks only, and as they could not depend upon a supply of provisions from New-England, they should return home, without making any further attempts.

If the ministry were sincere in the prosecution of the war, they were certainly the most consummate blunderers, that ever undertook



took the government of state. If they only meant to disgust the nation with the continuance of the war, and dispose them towards a peace by the miscarriage of their military enterprizes, they might perhaps have done it at a less considerable expence, than must necessarily have been laid out on the present equipment. It was really cruel in them, however, and even ungrateful, by committing the expedition to poor brigadier Hill, to disgrace the brother of the new favourite, Mrs. Masham, the worthy instrument to which they, all of them, owed their own elevation.

The ascendant, which the Tories had lately gained in England, began to have a visible influence on every part of the British dominions. In the Irish parliament, held during this summer, the duke of Ormond and the majority of the peers declared themselves of that party, while the commons expressed the warmest attachment to Revolution-principles. The two houses made violent remonstrances to her majesty, and passed severe resolutions against each other. At the close of the session, Sir Constantine Phipps, the chancellor, and general Ingoldsby, were appointed justices in the room of the duke of Ormond, who returned to England in the latter end of November.

In Scotland, the Tories, though more insolent, were at the same time more open and sincere than their brethren in England and Ireland. They boldly threw aside all disguise, and publicly owned their attachment to the Pretender. The dutchess of Gordon, a Roman catholic, presented the faculty of advocates with a silver medal, having on one side a head with the motto, *Cujus est?* and on the other, the British islands, with the inscription, *Reddite*.

This medal was first left in the hands of a servant, the dean of the faculty being afraid either to accept it, or give it a place among the collection of rarities, until he had consulted some of his brethren. A meeting of the members being called for the purpose, Mr. Stevenson observed that the medal ought to be returned to her grace, as the receiving it would be offering an insult to the government. He was seconded by Mr. Alexander, who said that the accepting such a medal was owning a right contrary to that of her majesty.

Mr. Frazer alledged, " that the Medal  
 " of Oliver Cromwell, who deserved to be  
 " hanged, and the arms of the Common-  
 " wealth of England had been received ;  
 " and he did not see why this ought to be  
 " rejected." To this Mr. Duncan Forbes  
 replied, " that it was time enough, then  
 " to

“ to receive the medal, when the pretender  
 “ was hanged.” He was supported by Mr.  
 Hume, Mr. Dalrymple, Sir James Stuart,  
 and others.

But Mr. Dundas of Arnistoun silenced all  
 the Whig-party, by brandishing that terri-  
 ble weapon, which the Tories, when hard-  
 pressed, have always employed against their  
 antagonists; that of calling them a parcel  
 of low wretches and upstarts: or, in his own  
 elegant and gentlemanlike phrase, “ they  
 “ were all a set of pitiful scoundrel vermin,  
 “ mushrooms unworthy of notice.”

It being impossible to advance any thing  
 in opposition to such an unanswerable argu-  
 ment, the question was put, and it was car-  
 ried by a majority of sixty-three voices  
 against twelve, that the medal should be ac-  
 cepted, and the dutchess thanked for this  
 token of her regard. The task was perform-  
 ed by Dundas, who had already given such  
 an admirable specimen of his eloquence;  
 and it must be owned, that he lost nothing  
 in point of fame, by this second trial of his  
 abilities. He thanked her grace for having  
 presented them, “ with a medal,” as he  
 said, “ of their sovereign lord the king;  
 “ hoping, and being confident, that her  
 “ grace would very soon have an opportuni-  
 “ ty to compliment the faculty with a se-  
 “ cond

"cond medals struck upon the restoration of  
"the king and royal family, and the fi-  
"nishing rebellion, usurping tyranny, and  
"whiggery."

Whether the good-manners of these men, though they pique themselves so much on the character of gentlemen, will meet with many admirers out of their own party, we will not venture to determine: certain we are, that all men must applaud them for their brave and open avowal of their principles, and their scorning to wear the cowardly cloak of hypocrisy and dissimulation.

Such, however, were not the sentiments that then prevailed with the majority of the nation. They thought, that, whatever might be the principles of these men, they ought to keep them to themselves, and that such a bold and public declaration of them was offering an insult to the government. Such influence had this opinion on the generality of the people, and so high was their indignation on the occasion, that the ministry found themselves under a necessity of taking notice of the affair, and accordingly ordered the lord advocate to inquire into the particulars.

The faculty had no great reason to be apprehensive of any severe punishment: nevertheless they disowned, Dundas and

194 *The History of* ENGLAND.

Horne, his accomplice. They pretended, that the affair of the medal had been transacted by a party at an occasional meeting, and not by general consent; and, by a solemn act, they declared their affection to the queen and her government, their attachment to the Protestant succession, and their detestation of all practices tending to give any encouragement to the pretender. Thus by the cruelty of the Whigs, were these poor men obliged to resign the only praise to which they had any claim, that of openness and sincerity.

The court was not difficult to be pleased: they accepted this acknowledgement as a sufficient atonement; but the resident from Hanover having presented a memorial to the queen, desiring, that Dundas and his associates might be prosecuted, the government removed Sir David Dalrymple from his office of lord-advocate, on pretence of his having been too remiss in prosecuting those delinquents. It is certain, however, that Sir David was, by no means, a friend to the Jacobites; and it was even affirmed, that he would have prosecuted the medallists, as they were called, with the utmost severity, had he not been restrained by secret instructions from court.

For



For some time a negotiation for peace had been carried on between the court of France and the new ministers, who were determined, at all events, to put an end to a war, which they were equally unwilling and incapable to continue. The earl of Jersey, who acted in concert with Oxford, sent a messenger privately to the court of France, signifying the queen's sincere inclination to a peace; and desiring that Lewis would propose to the Dutch a renewal of the conferences, in which case the English plenipotentiaries should be furnished with such instructions, as would render it impossible for the States-General to hinder the conclusion of the treaty.

This messenger was one Gualtier, an obscure priest, who served count Gallas, the Imperial ambassador, in quality of chaplain, and had been employed, as a spy, by the French ministry, ever since the commencement of hostilities. His message was extremely agreeable to the court of Versailles; and he returned to London with a letter of compliment from the marquis de Torcy to the earl of Jersey, in which that minister assured him of his master's pacific disposition, though he was averse to a renewal of the conferences with the States-General.

Gualtier wrote a letter to Versailles, desiring, in the name of the British ministry, that his most Christian majesty would communicate to them his proposals for a general peace, which they would impart to the States-General, that they might treat in concert with their allies. A general answer being returned to this letter, Gualtier took a second journey to Versailles, and brought back a memorial, importing, that the English should have full security for the exercise of their commerce in Spain, the Indies, and the ports of the Mediterranean: that a barrier should be formed in the Low-Countries for the security of Holland, and to the entire satisfaction of the Dutch: that reasonable means should be devised to satisfy the allies of England and Holland: that, as the favourable situation of the affairs of king Philip, furnished new expedients to terminate the differences about the Spanish monarchy, endeavours should be used to overcome the difficulties that might occur on that subject: that the conferences for peace should be immediately opened; and that the French king's plenipotentiaries should either treat with those of England and Holland alone, or jointly with those of their allies, at the choice of England: and that Lewis proposed the cities of Aix-la-Chapelle or  
Liege

Liege for the place of treaty, leaving it to her Britannic majesty to pitch upon which of these places she should think most proper.

These propositions were immediately transmitted to lord Raby, the English ambassador at the Hague, with orders to communicate them to the States-General. The States having perused the memorial, returned an answer, importing, that nothing could be of more importance to the common cause than to preserve an entire confidence among all the powers concerned in the confederacy: that they were ready to join with her majesty in contributing to the conclusion of a durable peace; but they looked upon these propositions as too vague and general for the foundation of a treaty, and only intended to sow jealousies and divisions among the allies: and that they therefore hoped, she would make the French king communicate a more particular plan for securing the interest of the confederates powers, and for settling the repose of Europe.

Gualtier was once more sent to Versailles, accompanied by Mr. Prior, the poet, who had resided some time in France, as secretary to the embassies of the earls of Portland and Jersey. He was ordered to communicate the preliminary demands of the English; to receive the French king's an-

five; and to inquire, whether or not king Philip had transferred a power of treating to his grandfather. He arrived inognito at Fountainebleau, and presented the queen's memorial, in which she demanded, that the Dutch should have a barrier in the Netherlands, and the emperor another on the Rhine: that security should be given for the Dutch commerce, and a general satisfaction to all her allies: that all the towns taken from the duke of Savoy should be restored: that he should possess such towns and districts as had been yielded to him in treaties between him and the allies: that Lewis should acknowledge queen Anne and the Protestant succession; demolish the fortifications of Dunkirk, and agree to a new treaty of commerce: that the privilege of furnishing the Spanish dominions in America with slaves, at that time enjoyed by the French, should be given up to the English: that the British subjects trading to Spain, should enjoy all the advantages granted by that crown to the French: that the queen should be put in possession of Newfoundland, though the trade of Hudson's bay might be carried on indifferently by the subjects of either crown; and that in America all things should remain in the same situation, in which they should be found, at the conclusion of the peace.

As

As Prior's commission extended no farther than to communicate and receive proposals, Mesnager, deputy of the council of trade in France, accompanied the English minister to London, with full powers to settle the preliminaries of a treaty. This gentleman no sooner arrived in London than the queen appointed the duke of Shrewsbury, the earls of Jersey, Dartmouth, Oxford, and Mr. St. John, to treat with him: and the conferences were immediately begun. After some disputes they agreed upon certain preliminary articles, which, on the twenty-fourth day of September were signed by the French minister, and by the two secretaries of State, in consequence of a written order from her majesty.

These articles imported, that Lewis acknowledged the title of the queen of Great-Britain, and the succession of that crown, according to the present settlement: that he would freely, and *bonâ fide*, consent to the taking all just and reasonable measures for hindering the crowns of France and Spain from ever being united on the head of the same prince; persuaded, as he was, that such excess of power would be dangerous to the peace and tranquility of Europe: that all the parties, engaged in the present war, should, each of them, obtain a reasonable  
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200 *The History of* ENGLAND.

satisfaction in the treaty of peace, which should be concluded; and that trade should be so established and maintained for the future, to the advantage of Great-Britain and Holland, and of the other nations, who had been accustomed to exercise commerce: that he would faithfully observe the conditions of peace, when it should be concluded; and, as the only object, which he proposed to himself was, to secure the frontiers of his kingdom, without disturbing the neighbouring states, he readily agreed by the ensuing treaty, that the Dutch should be put in possession of the fortified places, which should be mentioned in the Netherlands, to serve, for the future, as a barrier for securing the quiet of the republic of Holland against any attempts from the part of France: that he likewise consented, that a sufficient and convenient barrier should be formed for the empire, and the house of Austria: that, though he had expended very large sums, as well in purchasing, as fortifying Dunkirk; and though an additional expence would be necessary for razing the works, he would yet engage to cause them to be demolished, immediately after the conclusion of the peace, on condition, that, for the fortifications of that place, a proper equivalent should be given him; and as it

could

could not be expected that England should furnish that equivalent, the manner of raising it should be left to the plenipotentiaries appointed to conduct the negotiations for peace : and that, when the general conferences for peace should be opened, the pretensions of all the princes and states, engaged in the war, should be carefully considered, and nothing should be omitted to regulate and settle them to the entire satisfaction of all the parties.

Nothing, surely, could be more vague, loose, and undetermined than these preliminaries, which hardly mentioned a single object, for which the war had been originally undertaken. They had been settled, too, without the consent of any one of the allies. Except the communication of the first propositions to the States-general, not a single step, taken during the whole negotiation, which had now been carried on for several months between France and England, had ever been imparted to any of the confederates. No wonder, therefore, that they should disapprove of preliminaries, which were so unsatisfactory, and which had been obtained in so shameful and clandestine a manner.

Accordingly, when they were communicated to count Gallas, the Imperial ambassador, he treated them with the most supreme

prerogative contempt, and caused them to be translated and inserted in one of the daily papers. This step was so much resented by the queen, that she sent a message to the count, forbidding him to come any more to court, and telling him he might leave the kingdom as soon as he should think proper.

Nor did they meet with a more favourable reception in Holland: for, when the earl of Strafford, the English minister at the Hague, communicated them to the pensionary, signified the queen's approbation of them, and proposed a place where the plenipotentiaries should assemble, the States, instead of agreeing to the proposal, sent over Buys as their envoy-extraordinary, to intercede with the queen, that she would alter her resolutions. But her majesty was immoveably fixed in her purpose, and lent a deaf ear to all their remonstrances; and the earl of Strafford demanded the immediate concurrence of the States, declaring in the queen's name, that she would look upon any delay as a refusal to comply with her propositions.

The States considering, that they were altogether unable to prosecute the war without the assistance of England, and that, by separating their interest from that of Great-Britain,

Britain, they might lose the advantage of a good barrier, at last thought proper to yield. They accordingly consented to open the general conferences at Utrecht on the first day of January. They granted passports to the French ministers ; and the queen appointed Robinson, bishop of Bristol, and the earl of Strafford, her plenipotentiaries at the congress.

Charles, the new emperor, who was more deeply interested in the present treaty than any of the other allies, was no sooner informed of the preliminary articles, than he wrote a letter to the electors and princes of the empire, exhorting them to adhere invariably to the grand alliance. He likewise desired the States-General to assist him with their interest in persuading the queen of England to reject the proposals of France, and continue the war ; or, at least, to treat on the foundation of the first preliminaries, which had been signed by the marquis de Torcy.

He sent a letter on the same subject to the queen of Great-Britain, who did not think proper to honour it with an answer. She had once indeed declared, that she was determined to support the house of Austria ; convinced, as she was, that nothing but the restoration of the Spanish monarchy to that family

## 204 *The History of* ENGLAND.

family could effectually secure the liberties of Europe. The new ministry, however, had persuaded her to adopt very different sentiments. They had told her, that the liberties of Europe were in much greater danger from the Austrian than the Bourbon family : that, in any event, it was much better to increase the power of the latter, which was the model of taste, elegance, and politeness, to all the rest of the world.

They had told her, that England was so exhausted, that it could not carry on the war for another campaign. And, perhaps too, they had told her, at least many of them had thought so themselves, that it was absolutely necessary to gratify the French king, who was the only prince in Europe, that could re-establish the Pretender on the throne of Great-Britain.

That the Jacobites should be elated on this occasion is not at all surprizing ; it is more strange that they should contain their joy within such decent bounds. Their hopes, however, were raised so high, and their exultation became so visible, that all the friends of the Protestant succession began to be alarmed.

In order to allay these apprehensions, the earl of Rivers was sent to Hanover, to assure the elector, that his succession to the crown should



should be effectually secured in the treaty. The earl brought back an answer in writing; but his electoral highness, apprehensive lest this should be suppressed, ordered the baron de Bothmar, his envoy in England, to present a memorial to the queen, representing the necessity of preserving a perfect union among the allies during the negociation; shewing the expediency of their giving each other a guaranty for the performance of articles; and demonstrating the pernicious consequences of Philip's remaining in possession of Spain and the Indies. This memorial was published in the daily papers, and was highly applauded by all the friends of the Protestant succession, while the court condemned it as an officious interposition in the affairs of government.

The ministry, sensible how extremely obnoxious their conduct was to the more intelligent part of the nation, employed a number of mercenary writers to vindicate their measures. The Whigs were not behind-hand with them in this particular; and such a torrent of falsehood, scurrility, and abuse, was poured out on both sides, as fairly bid defiance to all truth, decency, or good-manners. The ministry, however, would not allow the same liberty to their antagonists, which they assumed to themselves. They

206 *The History of* ENGLAND.

caused no less than fourteen booksellers, printers and publishers to be apprehended and prosecuted; though, at the request of the attorney-general, they were bound over on their recognizances to the last day of term.

The proposals of peace were so captious and unsatisfactory, that they were disapproved even by some of the Tories; and certain peers, who had hitherto adhered to that interest, agreed with the Whigs to present a remonstrance against the preliminary articles. The court being informed of this design, prorogued the parliament to the seventh day of December, hoping, that the arrival of the Scottish peers, upon most of whom they could safely depend, would be sufficient to turn the balance in their favour.

Mean while, they exerted their utmost endeavours in order to recover the friends they had lost, or, if possible, bring over some of their enemies. The queen had a conference with the dukes of Marlborough, Grafton, and St. Alban's, the earls of Dorset, and Scarborough, the lords Somers, Cowper, and others; but all her persuasions were of no avail: they remained fixed and steady to their purpose.

The parliament, according to the prorogation, being assembled, the queen, in her  
speech

speech to both houses, said, that, notwithstanding the arts of those who delighted in war, the time and place for a general congress were finally appointed: that her allies, especially the States-General, whose interests she considered as inseparable from her own, had, by their ready concurrence, expressed an entire confidence in her conduct: that her chief concern was, that the Protestant religion, and the laws and liberties of the nation should be preserved inviolate, by securing the succession as it was limited by parliament, in the house of Hanover: that she should make it her endeavour, in the ensuing negociation, to obtain all the advantages of trade and commerce, which a tender and affectionate sovereign could procure for a dutiful and loyal people: that, with regard to the princes and states, who were engaged in the war, she would leave no means unattempted to obtain for each of them all reasonable satisfaction: that, as the best way to forward the treaty, would be to make early provision for opening the campaign, she hoped they would grant the necessary supplies for the ensuing year; and she begged they would proceed in this affair with such dispatch, as might convince the enemy, that if she could not obtain a good

208 *The History of* ENGLAND.

peace, she was ready to prosecute the war with vigour.

There were two expressions in this speech which were generally condemned. The one was, her seeming to glance at the duke of Marlborough by pointing out "those who delighted in war." The other was her affirming, that her allies expressed an entire confidence on her conduct, while it was universally known, that neither the emperor nor any of the princes of the empire, had agreed to the congress, but continued to oppose it with the utmost vehemence; and that even the States-general had rather been compelled by necessity than consented voluntarily to concur in her measures. Those who put this declaration in her mouth, were certainly no friends to her honour; nor did she show either her sense or her spirit in exposing herself to the ridicule of the world, in order to gratify a party, who treated her so unworthily.

Among those Tories, who, from a dislike of the preliminaries, had come over to the Whigs, was the earl of Nottingham. When, therefore, the earl of Ferrers moved for an address of thanks to her majesty, Nottingham rose up and said, that the proposals of France were so captious and insufficient, that they could never serve as a  
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proper foundation for any treaty: that as England had engaged with her allies to effect the restoration of the Spanish monarchy to the house of Austria, there was an absolute necessity of prosecuting the war, till these engagements should be fulfilled: that though he had a numerous family, he would cheerfully contribute one half of his income for that purpose, rather than consent to a peace, which he thought dishonourable to his country and dangerous to Europe: and that he therefore begged leave to offer a clause to be inserted in the address of thanks, representing to her majesty, that in the opinion of the house, no peace could be safe or honourable to Great-Britain or Europe, if Spain and the West-Indies should be allotted to any branch of the house of Bourbon.

He was answered by his own brother, lord Guernsey, who alledged, that such a clause was foreign to an address of thanks; that in all probability, few of the members of the house were prepared to speak to the matter; but that it might be debated at a more convenient time, when according to custom the house should take into consideration the state of the nation.

“What!” said the earl of Sunderland, who spoke in reply, “is it possible that any member of this illustrious house should



210 *The History of* ENGLAND.

“ be unprepared to debate on an affair, which  
 “ for these ten years past, has been the prin-  
 “ cipal subject of our deliberations? Do  
 “ we not sit in the same house? and are we  
 “ not the same peers, who have constantly  
 “ been of opinion, and have often represent-  
 “ ed to her majesty, that no safe and hon-  
 “ ourable peace can be made, unless Spain  
 “ and the West-Indies be recovered from  
 “ the house of Bourbon? It is true, I see  
 “ some new faces among us: but even that  
 “ lord, who sits on the woolpack (meaning  
 “ the lord treasurer) may well remember,  
 “ that, in the late reign, four lords were im-  
 “ peached for having made a partition-  
 “ treaty.” By this he meant to insinuate,  
 that, if four lords had been impeached for al-  
 lotting any part of the Spanish monarchy  
 to the house of Bourbon, much more ought  
 any one to be impeached, who should dare to  
 assign them the whole.

The earl of Anglesey affirmed, that there  
 was a necessity of easing the nation of the  
 burdens incurred by an expensive war;  
 and that a good peace might have been  
 obtained immediately after the battle of  
 Ramillies, if it had not been prevented by  
 some persons, whose interest it was to pro-  
 long the war.

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This reflection was levelled at the duke of Marlborough, who presently stood up in his own defence and replied, that he thought himself happy in having an opportunity of vindicating himself from an imputation, which his enemies had so loudly and so unjustly laid to his charge, before a person (meaning the queen, and making a low bow towards the place, where her majesty sat inognito) who, knowing the integrity of his heart, and the uprightness of his conduct, would not fail to do him justice: that he appealed to her majesty, whether while he had the honour to serve her, as general and plenipotentiary, he had not constantly informed her and her council, of all the proposals of peace that had been made; and had desired instructions for his conduct on that subject: that he declared, upon his conscience, and in the presence of that supreme Being, before whom, according to the ordinary course of nature, he expected soon to appear, that he was ever desirous of a safe, honourable, and lasting peace; and that he was always very far from entertaining any design of prolonging the war for his own private advantage, as his enemies had most falsely insinuated: that his advanced age, and the many fatigues he had undergone, made him earnestly wish for retirement

## 212 *The History of ENGLAND.*

ment and repose, to spend the remainder of his days in preparing for another world; the rather as he had not the least motive for the continuance of the war, having been so generously rewarded, and having received honours and riches beyond his desert and expectation, both from her majesty and her parliaments: that he thought himself bound to make this public acknowledgement to her majesty and his country, that, if he could but crawl along, he should always be ready to serve them, in order to obtain an honourable and lasting peace: but at the same time, he must take the liberty to declare, that he could, by no means, approve of the measures, which had lately been taken, to enter into a negociation with France, upon the foot of the seven preliminary articles; for he was of the same opinion with the rest of the allies, that the leaving Spain and the West-Indies in possession of the Bourbon family, would endanger the liberty and independency of Europe: that this his opinion he had, with all humility, and as he thought himself in duty bound, declared to her majesty, when he had the honour to wait on her, after his return from Holland: and that he therefore moved for inserting in the address the clause offered by the earl of Nottingham.

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At last the question being put, whether the earl of Nottingham's advice should be part of the address, it was carried in the affirmative by a majority of sixty-two voices against fifty-four. The address was accordingly presented; and the queen, in her answer, said, she should be sorry that any one should think she would not do her utmost to recover Spain and the West-Indies from the house of Bourbon. The lords thanked her for this answer; believing, or affecting to believe, that, by doing her utmost, she meant to insinuate, that she would continue the war.

The ministry were extremely uneasy at the powerful opposition they met with in the upper house, though they were somewhat consoled by the more complaisant deportment of the lower. The commons presented an address, in which there were not only no objections to the preliminary articles, but even express assurances that they would assist her majesty in disappointing the designs of those, "who delighted in war;" and accordingly the answer they received was proportionably warm and affectionate. The queen said, that this very dutiful address was what she expected from the zeal and loyalty of such a house of commons: that she returned them her hearty thanks

thanks for the confidence they reposed in her ; and entirely relied upon their assurances ; and that they might be satisfied she would always have the most tender regard for their interests.

A question was now started in the upper house, which was agitated with great warmth and vehemence. This was, whether Scottish peers, created peers of Great-Britain since the Union, had a right to sit in that house. The question was occasioned by the duke of Hamilton's claiming a seat as duke of Brandon, a title with which he had lately been honoured.

His claim was opposed by the anti-courtiers, who apprehended some danger to the constitution, should they admit into the house a greater number of Scottish peers than were allowed by the Union. They knew that the ministry wanted to obtain a majority in the upper house ; and that, as the Scottish lords were numerous and generally possessed of but small fortunes, a sufficient number of them would always be at the devotion of the court.

Counsel was heard upon the validity of the duke's patent. They observed that the queen's prerogative in conferring honours was indisputable : that all the subjects of the united kingdoms enjoyed a capacity of  
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receiving honours; the commons of Scotland unquestionably possessed it; and it seemed strange, that the peers of that nation should alone be deprived of it: that, by the act of Union, the Scottish lords were, "by virtue of that treaty," to have a representation of sixteen for their whole body; and that the words, "by virtue of that treaty," seemed to insinuate, that, by creation or succession, they might be capable of a seat distinct from their representation. The Scottish lords affirmed, that these words were inserted in the treaty; for that very purpose; and for the truth of their assertion, appealed to those English lords who had conducted the treaty, who frankly owned, that such was their intention. It was further urged, that the house of lords had already determined the question, when they not only admitted the duke of Queensberry, on his being created duke of Dover, but had so far affirmed his being a peer of Great-Britain, that, upon that account, they had denied him the right of voting in the election of the sixteen peers of Scotland.

In answer to all these arguments, the anti-courtiers alledged, that the prerogative could not operate, when barred by an act of parliament: that, by the act of union, the peers of Scotland were vested with all the privileges

privileges of British peers, except those of voting  
 in the house of lords, and sitting in judgment  
 on a peer; and, with regard to their  
 right of voting, that was lodged in their re-  
 presentatives, by whom they were supposed  
 to vote: that the queen might give them  
 what titles she pleased; but this incapacity  
 of voting, otherwise than by their representa-  
 tives, being settled by law, the prerogative  
 was limited in that particular; they owned  
 they had admitted the duke of Queensberry  
 in quality of duke of Dover; but that af-  
 fair, having never been brought to a discus-  
 sion, had rather been permitted than deter-  
 mined; and the terms in which he was  
 mentioned in their books, upon occasion of  
 the Scottish elections, were such as seemed  
 to leave his right still undecided; for it was  
 only said, that his "claiming" to be duke  
 of Dover, rendered him incapable to vote  
 as a Scottish peer.

The Scotch lords replied, that the only  
 act of parliament, which limited the prero-  
 gative with regard to them, was the act of  
 union; those lords, who conducted the trea-  
 ty, were certainly the best judges of their  
 own meaning; these noblemen had frankly  
 acknowledged, in the hearing of the house,  
 that they never intended, by the act of  
 union, to limit the prerogative with regard

to the Scottish peers; but, on the contrary, to leave it perfectly free and unconfined; that act, therefore, if taken in its true sense, neither did, nor could limit the prerogative in this respect; and, of consequence, the whole force of the objections fell to the ground.

They exerted themselves with great zeal and activity upon this occasion; they were strenuously supported by the whole court-interest: but, notwithstanding their united efforts, when the question was put, it was carried in the negative, by a majority of five voices; though not without a protest entered by nineteen peers. The Scottish lords were so enraged at this decision, that they drew up a representation to the queen, complaining of it as an infringement of the union, and a mark of disgrace put upon the whole peerage of Scotland, adding the most solemn assurances, that they would maintain her prerogative, either in a united or separate capacity.

The bill against occasional conformity was revived by the earl of Nottingham in more moderate terms than those, which had been formerly been rejected, and it passed both houses by the connivance of the Whigs, whom the earl assured, that, if they would indulge him in this particular, he would

bring over a great number of friends to join them in matters of more importance.

On the twenty-third day of December, the queen being indisposed, granted a commission to the lord-keeper, the lord president, and some other peers, to give the royal assent to this bill, and another for the land-tax. Then the commons adjourned to the fourteenth day of January. The peers too, after having, at the motion of the earl of Nottingham, presented an address to the queen, desiring she would instruct her plenipotentiaries in the ensuing negociation, to act in perfect concert with the ministers of the allies, adjourned themselves to the second day of the same month.

The purport of this address, and the shortness of their adjournment, was equally disagreeable to her majesty. The former seemed to imply a suspicion of her ministers, as if they might be inclined to engage in clandestine transactions with the enemy. The latter was considered as an evident proof of their eager disposition to renew their attacks against the court.

During the recess of parliament, the Tories gave a striking proof of their power and influence at court, and such a one as at once surprized and disgusted the whole nation. They effected the dismissal of the duke

duke of Marlborough from all posts and employments.

The pretence alledged for this violent measure, were some discoveries that had lately been made by the commissioners for examining the public accounts. Sir Solomon Medina, a Jew, concerned in the contract for furnishing bread to the army in Flanders, had made an annual present to the duke of between five and six thousand pounds. The general of the States, it seems, had enjoyed the like present, as a perquisite to support his dignity, and to enable him to procure intelligence. The queen caused the additional sum of ten thousand pounds a year to be given to the duke for the same service. She had likewise impowered him by warrant to receive the article of two and a half per cent, which king William had ordered to be deducted for the pay of the foreign troops, amounting to about fifteen thousand pounds.

The duke understanding, while he was in Flanders, that the commissioners had discovered the present made him by Medina, began to be apprehensive lest they should give it a bad construction : and he therefore wrote a letter to them, dated from the Hague, in which he explained the whole matter. He affirmed, that it was a present



which had always been allowed to the general or commander, in chief in Flanders ; and that he had employed this money and all the other sums he received for secret service, in procuring good intelligence, to which his successes had in a great measure been owing.

The commissioners, not satisfied with this explanation, reported their discoveries to the house of commons ; and the duke no sooner arrived in England, than he caused his letter to be inserted in one of the daily papers, in order to vindicate his own character. The queen, who probably wanted only a pretence for executing a resolution which she had already formed, declared in council the thirtieth day of December, that, finding the commissioners of the public accounts had laid an information against the duke of Marlborough, before the house of commons, she thought proper to dismiss him from all his employments, that the matter might be impartially examined. This declaration was next day imparted to him in a letter under her own hand, in which she took occasion to complain of the treatment she had received.

The duke wrote an answer to her majesty, and transmitted it by the hands of the countess of Sunderland, one of his daughters. He said he was extremely sensible of  
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the honour her majesty did him in dismissing him from her service by a letter under her own hand; though he found by the contents of it, that his enemies had been able to prevail with her majesty to do it in a manner the most injurious to his character: that if their malice and inveteracy against him, had not had a more powerful influence upon them, than the consideration of her majesty's honour and justice, they would not have persuaded her to impute his dismissal to a false and scandalous insinuation, invented by themselves, and published at a time when he had no opportunity of giving in his answer; a circumstance which they must have been conscious would have fully detected the fallhood and malice of their aspersions, and not have left them a pretext for pushing her majesty to such extremities against him: that he was much more concerned at an expression in her majesty's letter, where she seemed to complain of the treatment she had received: he knew not in what sense to understand that word, nor what construction to put upon it: he knew he had always endeavoured to serve her majesty faithfully and zealously amidst a great many undeserved mortifications: but if her majesty meant, by that expression, to find fault with him for not coming to the cabinet-council, he very freely acknow-

ledged, that his duty to her majesty and his country, would not permit him to join in council with a man, who, in his opinion, drove her majesty to all manner of extremities: that it was not only his opinion, but the opinion of all mankind, that the friendship of France must needs be destructive to her majesty; that court being possessed with a most implacable rancour against her majesty's government, and the religion and liberty of Great-Britain: and that he wished her majesty might never find the want of so faithful a servant, as he had always endeavoured to approve himself to her.

Such was the unworthy treatment of a man, who had served his country with so much ability and success; who had raised the military fame of Great-Britain to a higher pitch than ever it had formerly attained; who had, a few months before, been esteemed, admired, and almost adored by the whole nation; and whose character, notwithstanding all the endeavours of the Tories to ruin it, was nothing lessened in the opinion of the public.

But it is more than probable, that the distinguished abilities, eminent merit, and signal successes of the duke, were, in the jaundiced eyes of the Tories, so many crimes, and were the very circumstances that ex-

exposed him to the hatred and resentment of that faction. He had humbled the pride of France to such a degree, and, had he been allowed to continue the war a few years longer, he would, in all probability, have reduced her power to such a low condition, that Lewis, instead of being able, as many of the Tories wished and expected, to establish the pretender on the throne of Great-Britain, would have been obliged to implore the assistance of some other prince to support him on his own.

Besides, as he was one of the principal leaders of the Whigs, he had, by his glorious achievements, bestowed a consideration upon that party, which, although they did not want it to support their credit and give them the ascendant over the opposite faction, had yet contributed, with a variety of other concurrent circumstances, to exalt their character, in the estimation of the public infinitely above that of their antagonists.

The disgrace of this nobleman, instead of weakening, served rather to strengthen the opposition in the upper house; and the ministry being determined, at all events, to procure a majority in that assembly, persuaded the queen to venture on a measure, which no English prince had ever before attempted. This was, without regard to any  
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## 224 *The History of ENGLAND.*

consideration but that of a devoted attachment to the court, at least, for no other immediate purpose than to serve the designs of the ministry, to create no less than twelve new peers; a number, which they imagined would be fully sufficient to cast the ballance in their favour. Accordingly, on the last day of December, lord Compton and lord Bruce, sons to the earls of Northampton and Aylesbury, were called up by writ to the house of peers; and the other ten were created by patent. \* Such a prostitution of honours reflects equal disgrace on the queen, who

\* The other ten new peers were: Lord Dupplin, of the kingdom of Scotland, created baron Hay, of Bedwardin, in the county of Hereford; lord viscount Windsor of Ireland, made baron Mountjoy in the isle of Wight: Henry Paget, son to the lord Paget, created baron Burton in the county of Stafford; Sir Thomas Mansel, baron Mansel, of Margam, in the county of Glamorgan: Sir Thomas Willoughby, baron Middleton, of Middleton in the county of Warwick: Sir Thomas Trevor, baron Trevor of Bromham in the county of Bedford: George Granville, baron Lansdowne, of Biddeford in the county of Devon: Samuel Masham, baron Masham of Oates in the county of Essex: Thomas Foley, lord Foley of Kidderminster in the county of Worcester: Allen Bathurst, baron Bathurst of Battelsden in the county of Bedford.



who bestowed them, and those who received them.

All peers of equal rank are, no doubt, in their own opinion, and perhaps in that of the gaping populace, possessed of equal dignity and entitled to equal respect; but, to the eye of a reasonable and reflecting man, in what a very different light must they appear. Those, who receive a peerage for eminent services performed to their country, will be esteemed and respected while living, and their memory revered when dead: but those, who obtain that dignity merely to serve the low and dirty purposes of a court, if they never discover any greater merit than in the article of procuring their peerage, become only more truly contemptible by their elevation.

However new and unprecedented this measure, and however disagreeable to the peers in general; yet as the queen's prerogative in creating peers was incontestible; as she had never before abused it; and as many of the new peers were, in other respects, men of real merit, it was not thought proper to make any opposition. The new peers were therefore admitted without undergoing any other mortification than that of some severe sarcasms

226 *The History of ENGLAND.*

casms for having entered the house in such a numerous body. Lord Wharton in particular, when the first question about adjourning was carried by their influence, asked them, "whether they voted by their foreman?"

*End of the THIRTY-SECOND VOLUME.*



**TILLITSON** Arch *BISHOP*  
*of Canterbury.*



*Engraved for Riders History of England.*



SIDNEY E. of GODOLPHIN.



*J. B. Kneller sculp.*

*Engraved for Riders History of England.*





